



THE INDEPENDENT

No 3,659

FRIDAY 10 JULY 1998

(IR50P) 45p

32-PAGE NEWS SECTION

The cheat's World Cup
WITH 9 PAGES OF SPORT

24-PAGE BROADSHEET REVIEW

The village lynch mob

FRIDAY REVIEW FRONT

And the band played on

LAW

Orangemen: 'We'll paralyse Ulster'

THE Orange Order last night warned of its ability to "paralyse" Northern Ireland after a meeting between Tony Blair and senior Orangemen failed to produce a breakthrough in the Drumcree impasse.

Amid talk of "another Tiananmen Square" there was great apprehension that widespread disorder could result from Monday's annual Twelfth of July demonstrations, which will bring tens of thousands of Orangemen on to the streets.

As travel agents reported a rush of customers anxious to leave the country, the Royal Ul-

BY DAVID MCKITTRICK
and COLIN BROWN

ster Constabulary continued to advise motorists to avoid many areas of Belfast and elsewhere while hijackings and road-blocks continued. Police reported that the violence had eased slightly overnight, although the total number of incidents of disorder has risen to almost 1,700.

Last night, numerous roads remained blocked by burnt-out vehicles. Bus and train services were again curtailed. The authorities say that more than

50 families have fled their homes. Police also said they had discovered devices containing nitric acid intended for use against them.

With Monday's marches looming, the First Minister and Unionist Party leader, David Trimble, warned that time was for running out for an agreed settlement. Church of Ireland Archbishop Robin Eames said that unless a solution was found Ulster faced disaster.

The talk of paralysing Ulster came from leading Orangeman David McNarry, who warned: "If Her Majesty's gov-

ernment is quite prepared to say to those people who are suffering at Drumcree, who are staying out at night, who are there because they firmly believe in their civil and religious liberties, if they are to be treated so scantily, then I've got to say that we can, if we wish, put our minds to paralyse this country in a matter of hours."

Later there were signs that others in the Order's leadership felt Mr McNarry had been too explicit in his interview. But there were ominous rumblings elsewhere within Unionism - one MP saying privately: "Drumcree could cease to exist unless the march is allowed to go ahead."

One of Mr Trimble's senior MPs warned that Drumcree could become "another Tiananmen Square" unless the Gov-

ernment offered a compromise which entailed allowing the Order to march along the nationalist Garvagh Road.

Tony Blair failed to achieve a breakthrough in 90 minutes of talks with Orange leaders, but gave a commitment to continue the dialogue in a search for a peaceful solution. He praised the leaders for "keeping the temperature down" by their appeals for peaceful protests.

The Prime Minister's official spokesman said: "It is a difficult situation but it is not the end of the dialogue. There may be further discussions by tele-

phone and I would not rule out another meeting in the future."

He said Downing Street was looking for "an accommodation rather than a compromise" and was insisting that the legal ruling banning the march had to be upheld. Unionist sources said the Orangemen had received no offer, and were "confused" by Mr Blair's approach.

At a news conference in London after the meeting the Orange chaplain, the Rev William Bingham, said the meeting had been worthwhile but they were still intent on marching along the Garvagh

Road. He added: "We came over to speak to the Prime Minister because we are concerned about the situation in our province. We are intent on keeping the channels of communication open."

The Orange Order denied that the Drumcree standoff was motivated by a desire to bring down the Good Friday Agreement. Orange leaders however held a joint media conference with members of the Rev Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionist Party, causing some observers to conclude that the stand-off has a double purpose.

No rate rise but respite may be brief

BY LEA PATERSON
and COLIN BROWN

Tuesday, which is expected to increase public expenditure on health, education, transport and housing.

In a radio interview, the Chancellor said the economy was performing roughly in line with Treasury forecasts. However, he warned that inflation remained a problem for the UK economy despite union claims.

City economists speculated that the MPC could simply be biding its time and may raise rates by another 0.25 per cent in August. By the time of its next meeting, the committee will have had another month's worth of economic data, and also will have had the opportunity to analyse in detail both the Government's spending plans and the impact of the minimum wage.

The Government's decision to cap the rate of real growth in public spending to 2.75 per cent a year for the next three years is widely interpreted in the City as a loosening of fiscal policy. If the Bank agrees with the City analysis, this could mean another increase in rates.

Ken Jackson, general secretary of the Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union (AEEU), said: "The Bank has left industry and 200,000 manufacturing jobs in limbo. By refusing to rule out further interest rate rises, the Bank has fuelled speculation over future rises. And industry is left hanging in the wind."

John Redwood MP, Conservative trade and industry spokesman, said: "Despite no change in interest rates today, the uncertainty for business continues."

There was also relief in the Government over the decision. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Gordon Brown, gave the Cabinet an upbeat assessment of the economy in advance of his comprehensive spending review, to be announced on

INSIDE
FULL CONTENTS
PAGE 2
TODAY'S TV
REVIEW, PAGE 24

HOME NEWS
Hopes of freedom for an IRA "bomber" faded after a terrorist failed to testify at his appeal
PAGE 5

POLITICS
The NHS will get a cash boost in next Tuesday's Comprehensive Spending Review
PAGE 8

FOREIGN NEWS
More people died in Lagos as violence after Abiola's death in Nigeria continued to spread
PAGE 13

FOREIGN NEWS
California may abolish its boot camps for young offenders after a teenager died
PAGE 16

BUSINESS
The Kwik Save name could disappear from British high streets within three years
PAGE 18

SPORT
Michael Schumacher hinted that he is to stay with Ferrari for a further two years
PAGE 32

28
9 770951 946559

A man casts his line in the River Wye - one of thousands of salmon fishermen who may be forced to give up their sport next year John Voos

Salmon fishing likely to be banned

THOUSANDS OF British salmon

BY CHARLES ARTHUR
Technology Correspondent

peratures, and in turn affecting spawning and survival rates of the young fish.

Official bodies believe the only effective action they can take is to cut anglers' catches.

"There's not much we can do about ocean currents," said Guy Marley, fisheries officer at the Environment Agency. "So we're concentrating on making

sure that the things we can affect are changed."

That means stopping fishing, which is reckoned to take between 10 and 50 per cent of salmon from rivers.

The decision could have serious effects on tourism, especially in Scotland, where wild salmon fishing is often offered as part of a holiday package.

"I think a lot of people would be up in arms about it," said a spokesman for the Scottish

Tourist Board. "It's a very popular pastime for incomers." The Environment Agency issues about 35,000 salmon fishing licences annually in England and Wales, each costing £55. But numbers have fallen by 10 per cent in the past four years, in line with dwindling catches.

Scotland issues licences on a regional basis, but will also be affected by a ban.

In England and Wales, stocks fell to a record low last year. In 1997, the catch by nets was 31,484 salmon - 39 per cent less than the average for the previous five years. Anglers declared a catch of 13,706, which was 38 per cent down on the average for the same period.

The form and duration of the ban is being discussed. It might be brought in as early as next January, though licences usually run from April to March.

Sea horses at risk, page 15

Taliban impose a telly ban

BY PETER WALKER

FIRST WOMEN on television in Afghanistan were ordered to wear the all-enveloping black veil. Then they were banned from appearing on screen at all. Now the ruling Taliban party has taken the final step and banned television altogether.

Viewers have been given 15 days to get rid of their sets, after which, the religious police - bearded men with automatic rifles - will conduct spot searches and smash any they find.

The latest ruling from the country's Islamic authority also bans video cassette recorders, videos and satellite dishes.

Mohammed Qalamuddin, the deputy head of the Tal-



iban's religious ministry, said: "These video recorders and televisions are the cause of corruption in this society." He was speaking on Radio Sharafat, radio being, in Taliban's view, a comparatively sinless medium. Since taking control of about 85 per cent of Afghanistan, the Taliban army has banned women from working and girls from going to school and has outlawed all music unless it is specifically religious.

Anybody who defies the television ban will not just lose his set. "He will be punished in line with Islamic law," Mr Qalamuddin said. He shed no light on which of the penalties prescribed by the Koran he had in mind.

As one Kabul observer noted yesterday, if the Taliban has its way, the only entertainment in the city will be watching public executions.

business.e-mail@reliability

... get the message?

The Fabrik Service extends your communications globally by connecting your LAN to Fabrik's managed Internet e-mail service - simply, securely, reliably.

SPECIAL
1 month free trial
OFFER

You don't need a dedicated Internet connection, you don't need to retrain users, you don't need additional hardware or software. You do need reliability, you do need to get the message. For a free trial, get the message to Fabrik today.

The
Fabrik
Service

tel 01923 775313
e-mail sales@fabrik.co.uk
freephone 0800 068 0370
web www.fabrik.co.uk

ind107

PEC
PRE
ham 1
6.30pm
Andrea
8.55pm
8.45pm
4.05pm
Seven
Soul 1

PUR
ABC
Objec
8.30pm
5.10pm
8.40pm

PUT
ABC
Bridge
3.30pm
My A
Seven
8.45pm
8.30pm

RICI
ODIS
BR/©
1.10pm
Objec
3.40pm
Seven
9.20pm

ODE
7.29pm
12.40pm
Deep
8.10pm
Edith
Mimi
8.50pm
12.50pm
Days
6.30pm
12.15pm
8.50pm
3.40pm

SIDX
ABC
Of Am
Days
8.30pm

STAI
VIRG
Crick
5.30pm
Anniv
8.15pm
6.45pm
Affect
Six E
4.15pm
Singe

STR
ABC
Hill Ci
8.40pm
Edith
ing Or

ODE
Sheat
Corin
6.40pm
Affect
8.40pm
14.0pm
Food
The N
6pm :

NEW
HOU
ford E
The G
6.50pm
Greas
1.40pm
Objec
6.50pm
2.15pm

SUT
UCI
/P M
6.45pm
Anniv
Mimic
Affect
Seven
Doris
Wed
8.45pm

TUR
COR
T
Anniv
8.35pm
8.30pm
3.45pm

UXB
ODE
City O
Six I
3.45pm

WAL
ABC
Centr
6.15pm
Affect
8.20pm
1.45pm

WAL
THE
(0193
Greas
3.05pm
Seven

WEI
COR
Ethan
Six I
6.20pm

WIL
BEL
P
6.30pm

WWN
ODE
/P 1
City
8.30pm
Edith
The I
3.30pm
Seven
8.40pm
Wedi

WO
ABC
Woo
3.40pm
My A
8.30pm
1.30pm

INDEX

HOME NEWS

PAGES 2 - 12

For sale: gene-modified salmon

Genetically engineered salmon that mature faster than conventional ones are among 35 new biotechnology products to be offered to consumers in the next six years.

Page 5

See the TV show, buy the T-shirt

Granada television has licensed Coronation Street to a number of companies who will produce a range of clothing based on the programme.

Page 10

Scrubs lawyer 'harassed in jail'

A solicitor at the centre of allegations of brutality at Wormwood Scrubs prison claimed she was being victimised by staff at every jail she visited.

Page 10

FOREIGN NEWS

PAGES 13 - 17

Junta leader 'abducted babies'

A former Argentine junta leader who ousted Pinochet is alleged to have abducted babies.

Page 15

Canada gets tough on smokers

Canada is considering putting a skull and crossbones on cigarette packets.

Page 16

BUSINESS NEWS

PAGES 18 - 23

Names warn Lloyd's could fail

Lloyd's of London investors condemned moves to squeeze them out of the insurance market, warning a big influx of corporate money would cause it to fail.

Page 18

SPORTS NEWS

PAGES 24 - 32

Westwood slips at Loch Lomond

Lee Westwood was knocked off the top of the leaderboard at the Loch Lomond World invitational golf tournament by a round of 66 from veteran Scot Ross Drummond.

Page 25

Spurs to pay £2.5m for Iranian

Tottenham are about to sign Iranian World Cup midfielder Mehdi Mahdavikia for around £2.5m.

Page 28

FRIDAY REVIEW

24-PAGE BROADSHEET SECTION

Donald MacIntyre

"It's time for Tony Blair to do the old fashioned thing - like make his party feel they count again. They owe him a huge debt; he owes something to them too."

Page 3

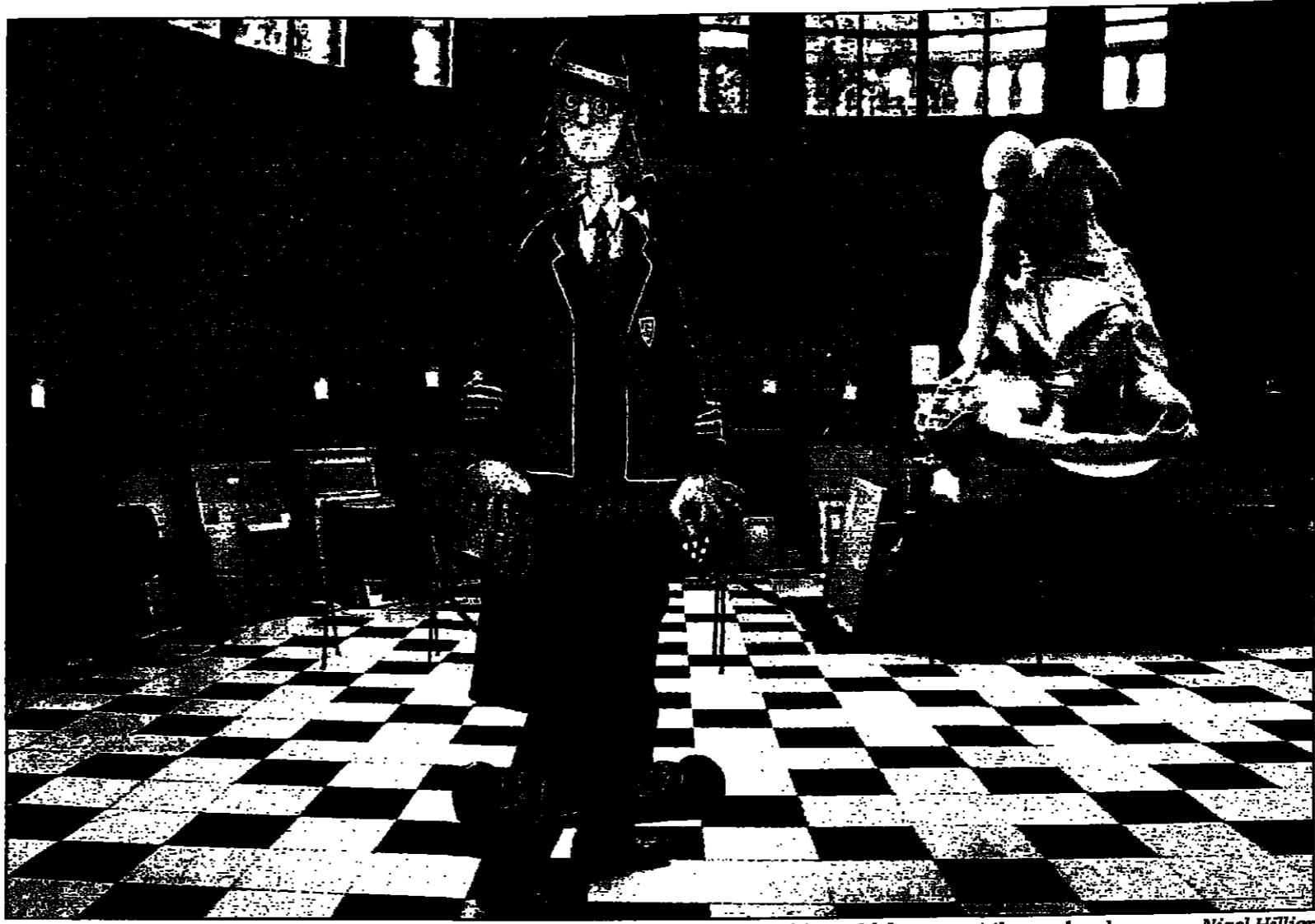
William Hague

"We understand why we lost the trust of the British people and we are reforming our organisation and changing our culture to win back their trust."

Page 4

Letters	2	Music	15-19
Leaders and comment	3-5	Law	20
Obituaries	6-7	Listings	21-22
Features	8-9	Radio, Satellite TV	23
Science	10	Concise crossword	23
Arts, design	11-14	Today's TV	24

Cryptic crossword, section one, page 32



One of the 600 entries jostling for the 200 places at the Bradford Open '98 Art Exhibition, which opens at the weekend

Nigel Hillier

Liddle faces fresh accusations

BY FRAN ABRAMS
and BARRIE CLEMENT

A DOWNING Street adviser was allocated new shares in a lobbying company three weeks after he took up his new job, it was revealed last night.

As No 10 promised to investigate the new allegations in the "cash-for-access" row, it also emerged that Derek Draper, a lobbyist and former Peter Mandelson aide, enjoyed privileged access to Labour Party headquarters during the election campaign.

Francis Maude, the shadow Chancellor, told the Cabinet Secretary, Sir Richard Wilson, that Conservative research cast doubt on whether Roger Liddle really had severed his links with the lobbying company, Prima Europe when he took up his government job last May.

Companies House records show that Mr Liddle, who is accused of offering to make introductions for his former firm, appointed his next-door neighbour to hold his shares.

Mr Liddle was a founder of the SDP before rejoining Labour and the neighbour, Matthew Oakeshott, was once a Liberal Democrat Parliamentary candidate. However, Mr Oakeshott was also man-

aging director of a major firm of investment managers.

Special advisers and ministers are supposed to dispose of their business interests or place them in trust.

But while Mr Liddle handed his 30 shares in Prima Europe to Mr Oakeshott, he received 20 new shares in his own right in June last year, three weeks after he joined the Downing Street Policy Unit.

The company was sold six months ago for £1.8m to GPC Market Access, the lobbying firm which until yesterday employed Derek Draper. Mr Liddle's share of the firm amounted to a quarter of that sum.

Last night, Mr Maude said the arrangement "wasn't so much a blind trust as a cronies' trust". Roger Liddle should be suspended while this is investigated.

That was always the right thing to do," he said. A Downing Street spokesman said Mr Liddle had taken the advice of the Cabinet Office on his business interest and had followed that advice to the letter.

"The blind trust arrangements were cleared by the Cabinet Office at the time although obviously, in the light of Mr Maude's letter, we will want to review all the material relating to this issue.

"Sir Richard Wilson, who was not cabinet secretary at the time, will respond to Mr Maude's letter in due course," he said.

It is understood that the increase in the number of the shares Mr Liddle held may have been a technical one, not involving an increase in the value of his shareholding.

Meanwhile, it emerged that Mr Draper was not bound by the same rules as other Labour apprentices during the election.

While all others who made regular visits to Millbank signed a confidentiality document, he refused to do so. However he continued to have "one-to-ones" with senior party figures and was said to have won the backing of a senior party official now a minister, for his refusal to agree to the gagging clause.

Former Labour officials who maintain close links with the party said there was widespread resentment about Mr Draper's special position, especially as he was a director of his own lobbying firm whose clients might have been interested in decisions a future Labour government might take.

Friends of Mr Draper said his agent advised him not to sign the document because of his writing commitments. He was preparing a blow-by-blow account of the election campaign.

Formula One lobbyist offends Lib Dems

BY COLIN BROWN
Chief Political Correspondent

A LOBBYIST who was a former adviser to the late Labour leader, John Smith, was last night at the centre of a row over allegations of using pressure on the Liberal Democrats to scrap the launch of an anti-smoking campaign targeted at this weekend's British Formula One Grand Prix.

David Ward, director-general of the European Bureau of motor racing, lobbied the Liberal Democrat leader Paddy Ashdown's office and the Department of Health to oppose the campaign organised by Action on Smoking and Health (ASH) for the Government to accelerate the ban on tobacco sponsorship of the industry.

Mr Ashdown's press secretary claimed that Mr Ward rang Mr Ashdown's office last Tuesday and "had a go" at the party's senior health re-

searcher; and then at Mr Ashdown's secretary. He later spoke to the head of communications, who referred him to the party's public health spokesman, Dr Peter Brand.

Last year, Formula One was caught up in a political row after the sport was exempted from a proposed ban on sponsorship.

Although the Government denied that there was any connection, Labour later returned a £1m donation from Formula One chief Bernie Ecclestone.

Mr Ward defended his actions, insisting that he had been neither rude nor abusive. Confirming that he had also contacted the Department of Health, Mr Ward said he was simply trying to register legitimate concerns about the Liberal Democrats' backing for the initiative and "inaccuracies" in some of its statements.

Mr Ward dismissed as absurd the suggestion that he had been trying to pressure the Liberal Democrats, or seeking to exploit

his contacts within Labour. He said he had spoken to the DoH to inform them what the Liberal Democrats and ASH were planning and to say that his organisation would be responding.

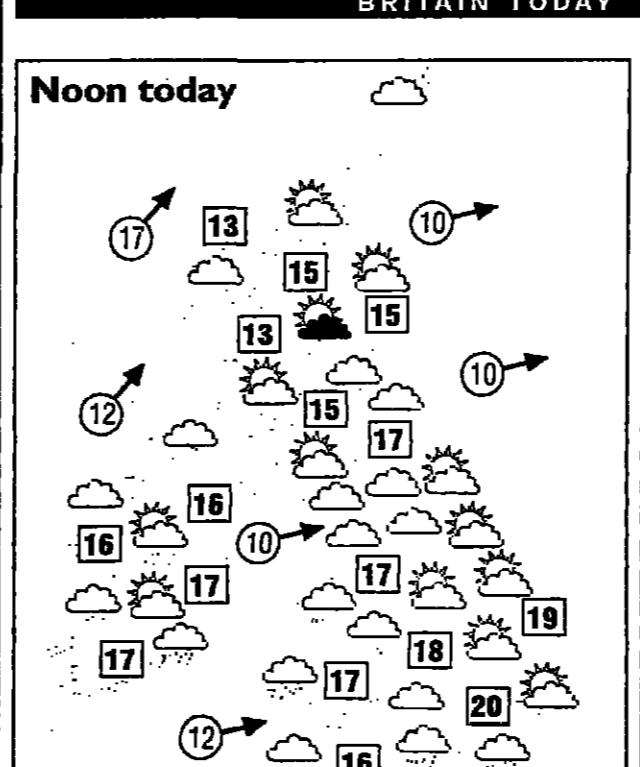
A DoH spokeswoman confirmed Mr Ward had approached the department but added: "It would have been wholly inappropriate for us to be involved.

so no action was taken."

Mr Ward said there was no question of him trying to exert influence. "What would be the

point of trying to Jowell [Public Eye] to ask her to stop being organised by the democrats?" he asked.

In a formal statement, FIA criticised the tactics of both the Liberal Democrats and ASH. "The FIA cannot understand why ASH has chosen to present their evidence on tobacco sponsorship to the FIA in a highly partisan event jointly sponsored by a minor UK political party," it said.



OUTLOOK

Scotland and Northern Ireland will have a mostly cloudy day with only a little sunshine breaking through at times, mainly in the east. There will also be some showers which will turn heavy and locally persistent in north-west Scotland later. England and Wales will also be mostly cloudy although there will be some sunshine in eastern England. All parts are at risk of light rain at times, but more especially in the west. Temperatures will be around the seasonal average.

NEXT FEW DAYS

Saturday will see overnight rain and showers clearing from the UK to leave most parts dry with sunny breaks, although rain will move into south-west England later. Sunday will be a dismal day with as rain sweeps east across the country to affect all parts. This will be followed by blustery showers. It will also be windy and cold for July on Sunday. More in the way of sunshine on Monday but still rather windy, showery and cool.

LIGHTING UP TIMES

Belfast	21.57	to	05.02
Birmingham	21.28	to	04.58
Bristol	21.26	to	05.06
Glasgow	21.58	to	04.47
London	21.55	to	04.56
Manchester	21.35	to	04.54
Nottingham	21.42	to	04.42

HIGH TIDES

London	AM 03.01	HT 6.3	PM 15.20	HT 7.1
Liverpool	12.33	5.0	03.52	5.4
Awbridge	08.28	12.7	20.40	13.1
Hull pier post	07.32	8.4	20.00	8.3
Greenock	01.42	3.3	14.00	3.1
Dun Laoghaire	12.58	3.6	-	-

SUN & MOON

Sun rises	04.51	AM 21.57	HT 05.02	PM 15.20
Sun sets	21.16	-	-	-
Moon rises	21.38	-	-	-
Moon sets				

Trials in
cancer
medicine

In the ghost town called Belfast, the only sounds are the sirens

Ulster's new upbeat mood is vanishing fast as a frightened population retreats behind closed doors

BY KIM SENGUPTA
in Belfast

ULSTER WAS doing well. Peace had broken out, the economy was growing and in the buzzing bars and restaurants, people were savouring a new-found freedom from fear. Then came Drumcree '98, and with it the return of the tensions and strife which threatens to undo much of the good work. The economic cost rises the longer the impasse goes on at Drumcree and violence continues across the province. Not unexpectedly, the tourist industry has been the first casualty. One estimate, by Roy Baillie of the Northern Ireland Tourist Board is that up to 20,000 potential new jobs could be lost along with extra annual income of £50m in each of the next five years.

During the cease-fire, the RUC had reported an increase in drunken pedestrians straying from the crowded pavements and falling under cars. There is no danger of that now. The Golden Mile in Belfast, full of bars, pubs, restaurants and night-clubs, has been deserted for the last few nights. The only traffic around has been police vans and fire engines and ambulances with their sirens on. The few people walking do so in groups, hurrying along, and avoiding eye contact.

Around them are rows after rows of shut premises. The very few which were open were almost empty. The Michelin-starred Roscoff restaurant has a normal waiting period of sev-



Belfast's Golden Mile, usually bustling with pub, club and restaurant customers, is now deserted in the evenings because of the fear the Drumcree stand-off has created

Alan Lewis

eral weeks for a table. Its owners Paul and Jeanne Rankin decided it should be business as usual. But around 10.30pm on Wednesday, when the place should have been bursting at the seams with well-heeled clientele, only two tables were occupied; one by a pair of London journalists. Manager Patricia Prosser said: "The restaurant will now be shut until next week." Two fashionable rival establishments, Shanks and Dean's have also been closed.

The shutters are also coming down in the retail sector and last night's late night shopping was cancelled. The big stores may well be able to cope with the loss of revenue, but for Steve Armstrong, who recently opened up a electrical store with his wife, the effect could be financially fatal.

"When you are a small operator, everything is costed down to the finest detail. My wife and I opened this shop because we believed that with the peace agreement there was a

future for us here," he said. "But we really cannot take many more days like this. If this continues, we will have to think about taking drastic action, maybe even shutting down."

For ordinary people, with no affiliation to either side, the affect on their lives is fundamental. Jenny Phillips, a mature student, said: "I am a Protestant, but I am adamantly non-sectarian, and I have got lots of Catholic friends. At the moment I am not prepared to go into West

(mainly Catholic) Belfast. I blame it, of course, on how dreadful the bus service has become in the last few days, but I know I am also worried about going there. I know I should not be, but I am."

Brian Douglas, 25, an insurance clerk and a father of two said: "Listen, I'm fed up even thinking about the rights of the Orange Order or the nationalists. I hate the fact that for the rest of us this means we have got virtually no public transport in the evenings, the

other day we had no public transport full stop. It would be difficult for people on the mainland to understand what we have to go through just to lead our ordinary lives. People have learned to cope, but they should not be, but I am."

Belfast's international airport unveiled a refurbishment earlier this week, displaying all the trappings that an airport of a prosperous and expanding city should have.

Yesterday, most of the passengers were going out.

Michael Shaughnessy, his wife Eileen and two children were flying to visit relations in Sussex. "We had the holidays coming up and we were undecided whether to spend it over here or go away," said Mr Shaughnessy. "What happened over the last few days made up our minds for us. Take my advice, get out of here before the weekend."

John Stringer, chief executive of the Chamber of Commerce in Northern Ireland, is watching it all with sadness. He has seen and played a part in achieving the recent economic growth.

"This is such a shame. Things were going very well. We had halved unemployment to 8 per cent and exports have grown for the last four years. We are sending trade missions to the US, India and Europe. People out there want to do business with us."

"If this situation continues, the affect would be very, very serious. There must be a solution."

Echoes of the 1974 calamity

THE PROSPECT of a loyalist attempt to "paralyse" Northern Ireland, as voiced yesterday by a senior Orange Order spokesman, is one which is taken very seriously by the authorities and indeed everyone else.

The Troubles have been studded with examples of such moves: some of them failed but some are remembered as conspicuous successes for the loyalist cause.

Although the security forces have always regarded the republican terrorists as their primary enemy, the recurring occasions of Protestant eruptions have been among the most destabilising episodes in Northern Ireland's history. IRA activity nearly always took the form of hit-and-run attacks: Protestant action though less organised, can offer a more fundamental threat in threatening to overturn law and order.

BY DAVID MCKITTRICK
Ireland Correspondent

The tactic was first seen in 1972 with huge loyalist rallies protesting against Edward Heath's action of abolishing the Stormont government and thus removing Unionism from power. A number of one-day and two-day strikes in effect brought the province to a halt.

By 1973, however, the idea of such strikes fell from favour as it became obvious that they could not be controlled and undisciplined. While Unionist political leaders called for peaceful and dignified protests, loyalist paramilitary groups brought out the guns while Protestant teenagers took to the streets with stones and petrol-bombs.

There was a strong reaction in the Protestant community when loyalists shot dead a fireman dealing with a burning

shop in Belfast. This happened in Sandy Row, which this week has once again been one of the most violent trouble-spots.

The tactic was however re-lived in 1974, when what became known as the Ulster Workers' Council strike succeeded in paralysing Northern Ireland and, after some weeks, bringing down the powersharing Sunningdale executive, led by Brian Faulkner, which included both nationalists and moderate Unionists.

The tactics on that occasion included a number of different elements. Loyalist workers in the power stations ran down electricity production, causing frequent black-outs, while on the streets paramilitary groups built barricades and intimidated those attempting to get to work. Within days most of industry had ceased to function.

The strike was run by a committee which included Unionist politicians, such as the Rev Ian Paisley, loyalist paramilitary leaders and elements of the Orange Order. Most of these came together again in 1977 in an attempt to stage a rerun, but this ended in failure. On that occasion the authorities, learning from the mistakes of 1974, faced down the strikers with a better-organised RUC and new measures which kept the power stations in operation.

The 1985 Anglo-Irish agreement led to a new rash of street activity, but a "Day of Action" once again ended not in dignified protest but in hijacking, rioting and looting. The tactic once again fell into disuse until the Drumcree stand-off saw its revival.

This time round, the idea of stopping electricity production

has been abandoned as – so far at least – has any idea of bringing daily commercial and business life to a standstill.

Some of the other characteristics of the present action are entirely reminiscent of earlier disputes. Although the protests are relatively disorganized, their effectiveness lies in the sheer numbers of Protestants who can be mobilised in times of high tension.

Leaders have called for non-violence, but again paramilitary elements and local youths have used petrol-bombs and other weapons in nightly clashes with the security forces. And again the pressure points are the same: the idea of exhausting the police and army, of threatening to bring ever-larger numbers on to the streets, and of exerting increasing pressure on Unionist moderates.

HEALTH professionals are concerned about an unforeseen "peace dividend" in Northern Ireland – a significant rise in suicide rates.

Suicides, especially among males aged 16-24, are outstripping road deaths in this age group; the Samaritans have launched an advertising campaign aimed at young people.

The British Medical Journal reported recently that figures indicate that 33 young people committed suicide in Belfast in 1997 but that more than 20 have done so in the first six months of this year.

Another survey, by the University of Ulster, said 16 people in Northern Ireland were attempting suicide each day but this figure was challenged by

The Samaritans. "We are bewildered by this statistic," said a spokeswoman. "It does not come from us, as our latest figures are for 1996."

She added that suicide rates did fall in times of war and rise again afterwards. "With peace, people have the chance to focus on themselves as individuals and look inwards. In times of war, if things are not going well, you can think 'It's the war; I'm not going mad'. And, let's face it, in troubled times there is a sense of community, but once that breaks down your feelings come back."

Liz Sayce, policy director of MIND, said it was concerned at the rise in suicides. "It's possible that danger gives people a channel for their distress. We hope, as the transition in Northern Ireland takes its course, the figures stabilise again."



**SOUTH PARK
STARTS TONIGHT**

11.40PM

Terrorist refuses to speak for Kinsella

HOPES OF freedom for a potentially innocent IRA "bomber" hung in the balance yesterday when a self-confessed terrorist reneged on a promise to testify at his appeal.

Pairc MacPhailin, who masterminded the 1993 Warrington gasworks bombing, was to have told a court that John Kinsella had been tricked into hiding explosives for his gang.

But under pressure from the IRA, he told Kinsella's defence team that he would not attend the hearing at the high-security Crown Court in Woolwich, south London. Nor would he give evidence by video-link from his cell at Portlaoise jail in the Republic of Ireland.

Kinsella is serving 16 years for hiding a bag containing Semtex, weapons and detonators for three IRA volunteers in Nottingham before they bombed the gasworks in February 1993. No one died in the attack but a policeman was shot and badly injured.

Kinsella has always claimed that the bag contained stolen silver - a claim supported by the fact that he hid it under a spot in an allotment where bonfires were regularly lit. And, once police told him about the bombing, he led them to the bag because it was next to a children's playground.

MacPhailin issued a statement in March 1995, with the permission of the IRA Army Council, in which he said: "John is not a member of the IRA and never has been a member of that organisation. He had absolutely no idea what myself and my comrades were involved in."

"He never even suspected that we were republicans. As a republican activist, I would never permit non-volunteers to be aware of the activities I was engaged in."

MacPhailin, who was given 35 years for conspiring to cause explosions, was interviewed in prison by police and lawyers for Kinsella and promised to testify at his trial.

However, in a letter to the de-

BY STEVE BOGGAN

fence, he wrote: "Unfortunately, the movement has decided that I should not give evidence at John Kinsella's appeal. They feel that as a convicted terrorist I would not be believed."

"Personally, I believe that the opposite would be the case and I argued strenuously but their final reply was negative."

Anthony Scrivener QC, for Kinsella, said: "MacPhailin, who was an acknowledged and proud member of the IRA, was willing to give evidence for the defence.

"He gave a series of statements indicating that this appellant was not a member of the IRA. [Kinsella], well-known petty criminal, may have been eager to make a few pounds, but he was not in this cell and was not told what was going on."

Applying to Lord Justice Bel-dam, Mr Justice Dyson and Mr Justice Longmore, to have MacPhailin's evidence read out in his absence, Mr Scrivener said that evidence "would purport that Kinsella was not a member of the IRA; that they did not bring him into their inner circle; that he was duped for £200; that Kinsella acted in a way no IRA activist would act - by discosing the holdout to the police."

Kinsella has always claimed that the bag contained stolen silver - a claim supported by the fact that he hid it under a spot in an allotment where bonfires were regularly lit. And, once police told him about the bombing, he led them to the bag because it was next to a children's playground.

Further, his statements say IRA members never dispute their membership of the IRA.

Kinsella has always said he agreed to bury the bag at an allotment on the outskirts of Nottingham as a favour to his nephew, Denis Kinsella, who had introduced him to two "friends", MacPhailin and another terrorist called Timmins, who was never caught.

Mr Scrivener also asked the court to rule as inadmissible holiday photographs taken of his son, John Junior, standing in front of a memorial to a dead IRA volunteer nine years before his original trial.

The photographs were the only evidence police found to link him to the IRA but he claims they were taken innocently. The hearing continues.



Guarding Westminster Abbey's West Gate are statues of Grand Duchess Elizabeth of Russia, Dr Martin Luther King and Archbishop Oscar Romero Brian Harris

Latter-day Christian martyrs honoured

BY ANDREW BUNCOMBE

THE UNSUNG HEROES AND HEROINES WHO DIED FOR THEIR FAITH THIS CENTURY

Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

Born in 1906, he was a German Protestant pastor and part of the Confessing Church founded in reaction to the pro-Nazi German Protestant Church. Executed by the Gestapo after a failed putsch against Hitler.

Manche Masemola

A member of the Pedi tribe in South Africa, she converted to Anglicanism and was killed, aged 16, by her parents in 1928. She was buried on a remote hillside.

Grand Duchess Elizabeth

of Russia. Born in 1864, she was the granddaughter of Queen Victoria and cousin and sister-in-law of Nicholas II. A devout member of the Russian Orthodox Church, she was killed by Bolsheviks during the 1918 revolution.

Esther John

Born in 1929, she moved to Pakistan after India was partitioned, and became a Presbyterian evangelist. Found dead in her bed in 1980 she is thought to have been murdered by a Muslim relative.

Martin Luther King

A champion of black civil rights in the US, he won respect worldwide for his non-violent methods. Was assassinated in 1968. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964.

Maximilian Kolbe

Born in Poland, went on to become a Roman Catholic priest. Was jailed by Nazis and killed in Auschwitz by lethal injection in 1941 after volunteering to take the place of a condemned man.

Wang Zhiming

Born in 1907, he was a pastor in China's Yunnan region. He fell victim to the persecution of Christians during the Cultural Revolution, and was arrested in 1969. He was executed at a mass rally in 1973.

Janani Luwum

The Anglican Archbishop of Uganda who was arrested in 1977 during the rule of Idi Amin, along with two Christian Cabinet members. He was tried and executed in the same year. His body was never found.

Oscar Romero

In 1977 he became Archbishop of San Salvador, the capital of El Salvador. Romero, who had committed himself to the persecuted, was shot dead in 1982 while celebrating mass.

Lucian Tapiedi

A teacher and Anglican in New Guinea, he was killed by Japanese invaders in 1942 after he had refused to abandon the missionaries with whom he worked. His killer later converted to Christianity.

Anthony Harvey

Westminster's sub-dean, at yesterday's unveiling service attended by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh. "But our century, which has been the most violent in recorded history, has created a roll of martyrs far exceeding

that of any previous period."

Those represented were selected by a committee of senior Abbey figures. When an individual was not a member of the Church of England, the committee liaised with senior figures within the relevant denomina-

tions. The statues, designed by Tim Crawley, are supposed to be representative rather than complete. "We are trying to say that this is a living church, that things are happening today and that we are moving forward," said a spokeswoman.

Exam standards come under expert scrutiny

BY BEN RUSSELL
Education Correspondent

EXAM WATCHDOGS announced new checks on A-level and GCSE standards yesterday, in an attempt to quell annual claims that public examinations are getting easier.

The Qualifications and Curriculum Authority, which regulates all national public exams, said it was setting up independent panels of experts to ensure

easier. Rising numbers of passes and improving grades have led to annual claims that standards are falling. Traditionalists use improving results to argue that exams must be getting easier. Teachers and examiners say teaching has improved and students are working harder.

The QCA has been monitoring exams in several subjects over the past two years. The first results of the process, reports on GCSEs in French, geography, religious studies and physical education, and A-levels in German, history, physics and government, and politics, will be published later this year.

Last year, 87.1 per cent of A-level entries were awarded a pass, up from 88 per cent in 1975. A record 54.4 per cent of GCSE entries resulted in a C grade or better. This year's results are due out next month. Dr Nick Tate, QCA chief executive, said: "The 1996 Standards and Time report was a major step towards ensuring that GCSE and A-level standards are safeguarded. QCA's systematic work in this area

guided by advice from the new high-powered independent panels, will help us keep GCSE and A-level standards consistently high across different exam boards and from year to year.

"By appointing experts who are impartial of QCA and the examination system we can be sure that judgements are informed and impartial."

Lesbian couple to have Web baby

BY GLENDA COOPER
Social Affairs Correspondent

A BRITISH lesbian couple are planning to have a "designer" baby after turning to the Internet to find the ideal father.

The solicitor and the teacher paid £280 for the man's sperm which they chose from a list of donors on a Californian company's Web site.

The couple, known only as Jane and Sarah, are now waiting for the package of frozen sperm to arrive in the post from the company Newlife.

Customers can choose the height, weight, age, nationality, income level and personality of the child's biological father. A spokesman for the Newlife company said yesterday that they did not comment on individual cases but matched up people with donors whether

they were gay or straight. The pair said they turned to the Web page after they exhausted every other avenue to have a child for three years.

"I have wanted to have a baby for as long as I can remember," said Sarah, a 22-year-old solicitor. "For Jane and me to have a baby would make my world complete. We have so much love to give it would be a shame for it to go to waste."

The Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA) warned that the success rate of the process is low and is also fraught with health dangers including the risk of contracting HIV from the sperm.

Leading edge for business. Winning prices for you.

DELL DIMENSION™ XPS R400

- INTEL® PENTIUM® II PROCESSOR 400MHZ
- INTEL® 440BX AGPSET
- 64MB HIGH PERFORMANCE 100MHZ SDRAM
- 512KB INTERNAL CACHE
- 5.1GB EIDE HARD DRIVE
- ATI XPERT 980 8MB 3D AGP VIDEO CARD
- 17" COLOUR TCO'95 SVGA MONITOR (0.28 DOT PITCH, 15.9" VIEWABLE AREA)
- 3 PC/1ISA, 1 PCI/ISA SHARED AND 1 AGP EXPANSION SLOTS
- 14/32X CD-ROM DRIVE
- INTEGRATED CRYSTAL WAVETABLE SOUND (SPEAKERS OPTIONAL)
- MID-SIZED DESKTOP CHASSIS
- WINDOWS 98 OR WINDOWS 95
- MICROSOFT OFFICE 97 SMALL BUSINESS EDITION VERSION 2.0

£1,249 (£1,502.83)

INC. DELIVERY & VAT

UPGRADE TO SPEC AS ABOVE: 6.4GB HARD DRIVE AND HIGH PERFORMANCE 19" COLOUR TCO'95 SVGA MONITOR (0.26 DOT PITCH, 17.9" VIEWABLE AREA)

£1,419 (£1,702.58)

INC. DELIVERY & VAT

DELL DIMENSION XPS R350

- INTEL PENTIUM II PROCESSOR 350MHZ
- INTEL 440BX AGPSET
- 64MB HIGH PERFORMANCE 100MHZ SDRAM
- 512KB INTERNAL CACHE
- 5.1GB EIDE HARD DRIVE
- ATI XPERT 980 8MB 3D AGP VIDEO CARD
- 17" COLOUR TCO'95 SVGA MONITOR (0.28 DOT PITCH, 15.9" VIEWABLE AREA)
- 3 PC/1ISA, 1 PCI/ISA SHARED AND 1 AGP EXPANSION SLOTS
- 14/32X CD-ROM DRIVE
- INTEGRATED CRYSTAL WAVETABLE SOUND (SPEAKERS OPTIONAL)
- MID-SIZED DESKTOP CHASSIS
- WINDOWS 98 OR WINDOWS 95
- MICROSOFT WORKS 4.5 AND MONEY 98 UK

£999 (£1,209.08)

INC. DELIVERY & VAT

UPGRADE TO SPEC AS ABOVE: 6.4GB HARD DRIVE AND MICROSOFT OFFICE SMALL BUSINESS EDITION VERSION 2.0

£1,149 (£1,385.33)

INC. DELIVERY & VAT



pentium® II

No-one's more committed to bringing leading edge technology to your business than Dell. Yet again, we're offering two great-value systems, combining Dell's legendary quality with the reliability your business demands. Plus two highly competitive upgrade options - giving your business plenty of room to grow.

Call the world's largest direct

PC manufacturer* or log on to

www.dell.com/uk/buydell

now. And make the deal of

the month.

TALK DIRECT TO THE NUMBER ONE

0870 152 4645

BETWEEN 8AM & 4PM WEEKDAYS, 9AM TO 4PM SAT, 11AM TO 4PM SUN

To order online 24 hours:

www.dell.com/uk/buydell



There are many football pundits but PC World has the **final word.**

THE ESSENTIAL WORLD CUP COMPANION

- INCLUDES:
- World Cup auto score sheets
- History of the World Cup
- World Cup desktop theme
- Football legends section
- World Cup line up
- 50 full motion video screensavers
- 50 video clips of the best moments of World Cup football

WORLD CUP WINNERS

PUT YOURSELF IN THE DRIVING SEAT

FORMULA 1
Encyclopaedia 1998

Find out which tracks the drivers fear most, where Jim Clark recorded his first Grand Prix victory and who holds the track record at every circuit. As well as supplying a wealth of information about every team and track, this interactive Formula 1 Encyclopaedia puts you right inside the cockpit with stunning video footage.

FREE
WITH ALL RACING TITLES SHOWN HERE (USUALLY £19.99)

Formula 1 97 £34.99 **Prost GP 98** £29.99 **F1 Racing Simulation** £29.99

TIME FOR TEE

AND Golf on the Map

So how do you avoid the water at the 17th at Sunningdale? Or find the nearest links course when on holiday in Scotland? Golf on the Map not only provides a thorough guide to the historic and championship courses of Britain and Ireland, it brings them alive with video footage, sumptuous photography and a full fact sheet about each club.

FREE
WITH ALL GOLF TITLES SHOWN HERE (USUALLY £19.99)

British Open Golf 98 £29.99 **The Golf Pro** £34.99 **Microsoft Golf 98** £34.99

GET IN AMONG THE ACTION

INTERNATIONAL Cricket Captain

If you're into sport, get into the huge range at PC World. All the latest titles from major sports across the world. As well as some sports you may not even have heard of. So exercise your skills with a trip to PC World.

International Cricket Captain £29.99

NBA Live 98 £29.99 **NHL 98** £29.99 **Madden NFL 98** £29.99

7 X-COM- INTERCEPTOR

X-COM- INTERCEPTOR £34.99

8 DEATHTRAP DUNGEON

DEATHTRAP DUNGEON £34.99

9 QUAKE II: THE RECKONING

QUAKE II: THE RECKONING £19.99

10 INCOMING

INCOMING £34.99

Over 1,700 top titles available immediately...

...FROM STUDY AIDS TO STAR WARS, FROM BANKING TO BACKGAMMON, FROM GARDENING TO GOLF

24 HOUR HELPLINE

To help you get the most from your new software, our experts are on hand at the end of the phone, 365 days a year.

PC WORLD
THE COMPUTER SUPERSTORE

FOR YOUR NEAREST STORE CALL 0990 464 464

■ ABERDEEN	■ EDINBURGH	■ STOKE
■ BIRMINGHAM	■ GATESHEAD	■ SWANSEA
JUNC 9 OFF M6 ■ GLASGOW		■ SPRUCEFIELD
■ BRISTOL	■ HULL	■ SHREWDEN
■ CANTERBURY	■ HUDDERSFIELD	■ STOCKPORT
■ CARDIFF	■ IPSWICH	■ TEESIDE
■ CHATHAM	■ LEEDS	■ LONDON AREA
■ CHESTER	■ LINCOLN	■ GUILDFORD
■ COLCHESTER	■ LIVERPOOL	■ BECKTON
■ COVENTRY	■ MANCHESTER	■ HARLOW
■ DERBY	■ NEWCASTLE	■ LAKESIDE
■ DONCASTER	■ NOTTINGHAM	■ STAPLES
EAST KILBRIDE ■ NORTH SHIELDS	■ PLYMOUTH	■ CORNER
	■ PORTSMOUTH	■ ENFIELD
	■ POOLE	■ GLOUCESTER
	■ PRESTON	■ TELFORD OPENING SOON
	■ READING	
	■ SELBY OAK	
	■ SHEFFIELD	
	■ SLOUGH	

THIS WEEK'S TOP 10 GAMES TITLES

1 FINAL FANTASY VII

FINAL FANTASY VII £34.99

2 UNREAL

UNREAL £34.99

3 HEART OF DARKNESS

HEART OF DARKNESS £34.99

4 WORLD CUP 98

WORLD CUP 98 £34.99

5 COMMANDOS: BEHIND ENEMY LINES

COMMANDOS: BEHIND ENEMY LINES £34.99

6 FORSAKEN

FORSAKEN £34.99

7 X-COM- INTERCEPTOR

X-COM- INTERCEPTOR £34.99

8 DEATHTRAP DUNGEON

DEATHTRAP DUNGEON £34.99

9 QUAKE II: THE RECKONING

QUAKE II: THE RECKONING £19.99

10 INCOMING

INCOMING £34.99

THE IN
Pal

SWIMMING

BY JAMES PARKER

ALL EYES were on the

swimmers for the

decide final. Then

it was

and then he was

all eyes on him

for bringing

the

A measure of vintage Clarke makes up for Blunkett's cruel

EDUCATION AND Employment Questions yesterday were rather thin gruel. There was little for even the most assiduous Labour backbencher to savour.

The Secretary of State, David Blunkett, and his team of ministers seem to have invented a whole new series of terminology which no one else seems to understand. Stephen Byers, one of his up-and-coming deputies, waxed lyrical about something called the "Area Costs Adjustment factor".

Alan Howarth, the turncoat former Tory, now new Labour junior minister was looking forward to "family-friendly employment policies" which were a "complex story"

but he was going to discuss them all at the "National Work Life Forum".

David Willetts, the opposition spokesman, complicated matters further with his two brains in overdrive. The trouble with brainy people is that most of us cannot understand them. Mr Willetts would get on better with half a brain simply by putting the boot in. Instead, he babbled on cheerfully about percentages, proportions of GDF and PSBR, which were too high or too low, and how they were all much better under the Tories.

Thank goodness, then, that I was fortunate to have been allowed by the chairman of the Press Lobby to attend the Press Gallery lunch at

which the guest of honour was Kenneth Clarke, the former Tory chancellor, now being thoroughly irreverent as he enjoys his new experience as a backbencher.

The wonderful ways of the Press Gallery are still new to me, but it seems, on the basis of yesterday, that the best speeches are often made outside the Chamber. Assorted lobby correspondents and MPs were entertained to vintage Clarke complete with Hush Puppies, ill-fitting, untidy suit, cigars, large punch and healthy appetite.

We were reminded of some of the highlights when Mr Clarke was in the news over the years. His daughter once commented that he was

THE SKETCH



MICHAEL BROWN

well suited to be a Chancellor of the Exchequer because he was always tight with cash and kept her short of pocket money. One newspaper once described him as "the think-

ing man's lager lout" describing a typical Clarke menu for getting through the day: breakfast of coffee and more coffee; lunch - large; dinner - even bigger.

Mr Clarke took the trip down memory lane in good part and only complained that most of these stories were inaccurate and that he could not stand lager. This had caused a nightmare on the rubber chicken circuit. Pints of overflowing, fizzy lager were proffered by blue-rinse Tory ladies, anxious to get in his good books, when his favourite tipple is actually Federation Bitter.

Mr Clarke said he was "now in the fourth and most irresponsible phase" of his career: a backbencher

the Opposition, which William is doing rather well" and said that the Tory Party needs a leadership election like a hole in the head. Such an event would reduce the party to a "heap of irredeemable rubble."

On Europe and the economy, Mr Clarke reduced the issues in his usual broad-brush style, which marks him out as one of the lovable rogues of British politics. On the economy his theme was that of Cassandra: "It's all coming to a sticky end and the public will see this when unemployment rises and wakes them all up from their holiday away from politics."

Judging by recent events their alarm clock is just about to go off.

NHS will get more cash, says Dobson

FRANK DOBSON announced yesterday that the National Health Service will get a cash boost in next Tuesday's Comprehensive Spending Review.

He said the Government had already put into the NHS £2bn more than the Conservatives had planned to and £1bn more than the Liberal Democrats had promised. "That isn't enough and that's why we will shortly be announcing more money for the NHS for the next three years."

While attacking the Conservatives for their post-war lack of support for the NHS, the Secretary of State was forced to answer accusations from the Tories of fiddling waiting list figures. Ann Widdecombe, the Conservative spokeswoman on health, said Mr Dobson cared more about image than the health of the nation.

The head-to-head between two of the most bruising and entertaining parliamentary performers veered from political body blows to blowing kisses across the floor of the House.

Mr Dobson said that he had inherited a "two-tier system that was understaffed, overworked, overstretched - only managing to keep going because of the dedication of staff who have been battered from pillar to post".

But, rejecting the attack from Mr Dobson on her party's stewardship of the NHS, Ms Widdecombe insisted that spending and the number of patients treated had risen between 1979 and 1997.

HEALTH

By DAISY SAMPSON

"Far from being 'saved', our health service has entered a period of crisis," she told the House.

She attacked the Government for "record waiting lists, fiddled figures, clinical freedom under threat, hospital cuts and closures. GPs coerced into collectives and all to the backdrop of the slickest spin-doctoring public misinformation campaign since the formation of the NHS 50 years ago".

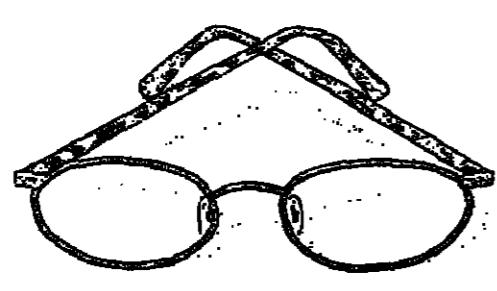
The Conservative accused the Government of breaking its early pledge to cut waiting lists by allowing them to rise to 1.3 million - "a queue for beds that would stretch more than twice round the M25".

A Worcestershire trust, said Ms Widdecombe, had been told to cut 759 patients from its waiting lists "without those patients being given the treatment originally deemed clinically necessary".

"Patients are left waiting in pain, to avoid the pain of political embarrassment to the Government," she told MPs.

"The picture to emerge from this sorry tale of sordid deception is of a government that will commit any act of manipulation, spin any convenient sophistry and break any trust to present what must be seen as not only a deeply misleading picture of their waiting-list disaster, but also a highly dangerous practice that can only be harmful to the well-being of patients."

THERE IS ONLY ONE EYEWEAR SALE.



OPTICIANS. LOWER GROUND FLOOR.
25% - 50% off Harrods usual price on selected frames from the following designers:

Christian Dior, Saks, Henry Jullien, Yohji Yamamoto, Kenzo and more.

Personal shoppers only. Subject to availability.

SALE OPENING HOURS:

Today, 9am to 7pm. Tomorrow, 9am to 8pm.
Sunday, 12th, 11am to 5pm. Monday 13th and Tuesday 14th, 10am to 6pm.
Wednesday 15th to Friday 17th, 10am to 7pm.
Last day Saturday 18th July, 9am to 7pm.

Harrods

Harrods Ltd., Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7XL. Telephone 0171-730 1234.



Abseilers drop in at the Millennium Dome's topping-out ceremony last month

John Voss

THE HOUSE



McDonagh in top Labour job

LABOUR'S FIRST woman general secretary was appointed yesterday after a full year of speculation. The *Independent* predicted last spring that Margaret McDonagh, then the party's head of campaigns, would replace Tom Sawyer. Tony Blair said he was delighted at the appointment, calling Ms McDonagh, 37, "a formidable operator".

Apology for the Birmingham Six

FORMER TORY MP David Evans apologised to the Birmingham Six at the High Court after claiming they were guilty even though they had been cleared by the Court of Appeal. Mr Evans, who lost his Welsh Hatfield seat at the last election, paid an undisclosed but "appropriate" sum to settle a libel action.

Today

■ Commons: Proceedings of the Landmines Bill; Adjournment debate. Local Authorities and Asylum Seekers.
■ Lords: Consideration of Commons Amendments to the Data Protection Bill; Second Reading of Pensions (Amendment) Bill; Committee Stage of Sexual Orientation Discrimination Bill.

THE HOUSE



Land-mine Bill 'betrays the memory of Diana'

MINISTERS WERE last night accused of betraying the memory of Diana, Princess of Wales, who lent her name to a ban on land-mines, as it emerged that the Government's ban would not stop British troops from dropping the weapons.

Campaign groups and opposition politicians said the Landmines Bill, due for debate in the House of Commons today, would not ratify the Ottawa Treaty signed last year by Clare Short, the Secretary of State for International Development.

Foreign Office officials insisted yesterday that without qualification the ban could never become law at all.

The treaty prohibited any ac-

LAND-MINES

By FRAN ARRAMS
Political Correspondent

tivity associated with land-mines other than their clearance and destruction. But the Bill would allow British troops working with others not party to the treaty to store, transport and transfer anti-personnel land-mines. Soldiers would not be able to handle them themselves, but they would be able to advise on how they should be laid.

A clause allowing them to do so seems to have been added because of fears that British soldiers working with other troops on NATO operations would be unduly restricted by a total ban.

Foreign Office officials in-

The Government's unilateral ban on land-mines allowed the Secretary of State for Defence to authorise the use of mines in times of emergency. However, the Ottawa Treaty would not allow such an exception.

Last night, the United Kingdom Working Group on Landmines said that loopholes in the Bill would undermine the international ban.

Ian Doucet, spokesman for the group, said: "The Government cannot change its mind at this late stage and weaken a ban which has been agreed by 126 countries. To back out on a total ban is an insult to the memory of Princess Diana."

Opposition MPs will attack

the Government on the issue in the Commons today. Last night Menzies Campbell, the Liberal Democrat Defence spokesman, said the Bill drove a "horse and cart" through the Ottawa agreement.

Michael Howard, the shadow Foreign Secretary, said: "We want a truly global ban."

A Foreign Office spokesman said that under the treaty British servicemen on NATO operations could be liable for prosecution if they handled mines on joint operations. He insisted that British servicemen would not be allowed to use mines or to assist anyone else to do so, claiming that the criticism was "a travesty of the Government's position".

MPs may miss holidays over university fees

EDUCATION

By COLIN BROWN
Chief Political Correspondent

The National Union of Students said it was consulting lawyers and would be seeking undergraduates prepared to launch a test case in the wake of a Lord's rebellion over fees for Scottish universities.

Ann Taylor, Leader of the Commons, told MPs the House of Commons would rise on 31 July, but warned they could be required to delay their summer holidays as the House could sit in the first week of August.

The statement came as stu-

dent managers were last night threatening to make MPs sit through the early part of the summer recess to force its controversial Bill on tuition fees for university students through the face of stiff opposition in the Lords.

Ms Taylor's threat was in-

tended to underline to Tory, Liberal Democrat and some rebel Labour peers in the Lords the Government's determination not to back down on the Teaching and Higher Education Bill.

The Government said last

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Child murder

IN ANSWER to a question from Tom Cox (Lab, Tooting) Alan Michael, a Home Office minister, announced yesterday that, in 1994, 52 children under 14 were killed by their parents, in 1995 the number was 46, and in 1996 58 were killed by their parents.

Phone bugs

THE HOME Secretary, Jack Straw, revealed in a written answer to Malcolm Bruce (Lib Dem, Gordon) that over 1,000 telephone bugs were authorised by his department in 1997.

Tourists face tax on the seaside

HOLIDAYMAKERS heading for the coast could find themselves having to pay a "bucket and spade tax" if proposals outlined yesterday by the water watchdog are adopted.

The Ofwat National Customer Council is calling for a tax on tourism in popular holiday destinations to help pay for the huge cost of cleaning up Britain's beaches and rivers. At the moment this is met from household water bills.

The tax would be levied by local authorities and paid by those local businesses that benefit from tourism. But it would almost certainly be passed on in the shape of higher prices for holidaymakers - from hotel rooms and donkey rides to chips and fish and chips.

Tourists in West Country could be the hardest hit. South West Water has the most coastline of any water company, and the highest bills, averaging £354 a household. Part of this would be met by the tax.

By contrast, tourists heading for London would be much better off.

BY MICHAEL HARRISON

Sheila Reiter, chairwoman of the Ofwat customer council, accepted that the tax could be difficult to administer and might not be universally popular. But she said: "Cleaner rivers and beaches are national assets." She added that there was a strong case for environmental improvements being met from either general taxation or from a tourist tax.

Businesses in areas heavily dependent on tourism reacted with alarm. Barry Groves, chief executive of the Isle of Wight Chamber of Commerce, said: "A lot of businesses on the island are already struggling to survive because there just isn't enough wealth around and transport costs are higher. Imposing another tax would be the final nail in the coffin for a lot of firms."

The bill for cleaning up Britain's coastline could reach £10bn, according to some estimates. South West Water, which has a third of the country's bathing beaches but only 3 per cent of its population, is spending £1bn on its coastal clean-up programme. "In principle we would support any measures that helped our customers, but at the end of the day this is a matter for local and central government to decide," said a spokesman.

Water pay row, page 18
Business Outlook, page 19



Children playing at Kynance Cove, Cornwall, where holidaymakers may be hardest hit by a 'bucket and spade tax'

David Swannborough

Grandmother, 71, jailed for community charge debts

CAMPAIGNERS expressed outrage last night after a disabled grandmother suffering from Parkinson's disease was jailed for failing to pay her community charge debts.

Betty Jack, 71, was taken crying from her home by bailiffs after magistrates imposed a three-month prison sentence.

BY ANDREW BUNCOMBE

Mrs Jack, who uses a wheelchair, was released from jail after a couple of hours after a judge granted her bail. But last night her supporters said the magistrates' decision was unbelievable.

"I have done around 1,000

poll tax cases over the years and this is undoubtedly one of the worst," said Mrs Jack's solicitor, Richard Wise, who is now seeking a judicial review of the case.

Mrs Jack was jailed by Doncaster magistrates for failing to pay £529 in poll tax relating to 1990-92, the first two years the

poll tax operated in England. The suspended sentence had been hanging over her since 1994 and was dependent on her making regular payments.

Neighbours watched as she was led from her home in Edlington, Doncaster, South Yorkshire, on Tuesday morning and taken to New Hall women's

prison near Wakefield, West Yorkshire. Bailiffs were so concerned when they called at her home they rang the council to check they had the right woman.

"Betty can't walk and she's just had both her hips replaced," said one neighbour. "When the men came she only

had time to grab her Zimmer frame and then they took her away. It's disgusting."

Last night Doncaster council defended its decision to prosecute Mrs Jack. "The court was aware of her disabilities and took everything into account before they imposed the sentence," said Stephanie Cunningham.

"Jail is the last resort and we do try every other avenue before passing cases on to court."

Alison Rose, a spokeswoman for Help the Aged, said: "It is [incredible] that they could even think of using jail. Even if she had to pay £1 a week for the rest of her life it would be better than this."

Curbs on FO study grants

BY ANDREW BUNCOMBE

A GOVERNMENT department is poised to drop its support for a system of secretive official grants which have benefited people criticised by human rights campaigners.

In a move which further questions the "ethical" foreign policy of the Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, the Department for International Development (DfID) is considering pulling out of the Chevening Scholarships.

A total of £32m was spent last year on the awards - funded largely by the Foreign Office and the DfID. The money allowed 1,800 foreign students to come and study at some of Britain's leading universities.

The Foreign Office, which selects the students, admits it targets people likely to be important in their own countries with the intention of spreading British influence. It refuses to reveal the identities of the recipients.

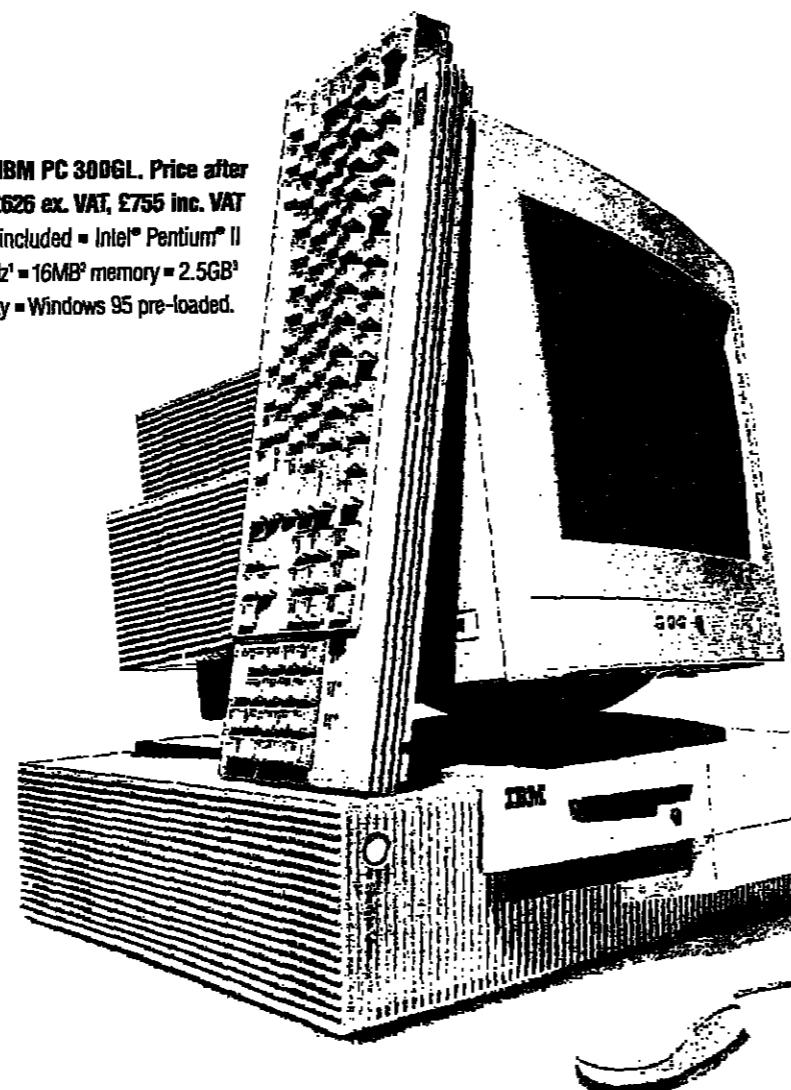
Earlier this year *The Independent* revealed one of the recipients was the Colombian politician Alvaro Uribe Velez, tipped to be president after 2002 and criticised by human rights campaigners for expressing support for vigilante groups.

Last night, a source close to Clare Short, Secretary of State for International Development, said: "Human rights is a concern. So is the question of whether these awards do anything to eliminate poverty," the source said.

A Foreign Office spokeswoman said last night: "The aim of the scholarships is to bring to this country leaders and opinion-formers from all sorts of countries."

"This includes countries whose human rights records are less than ideal. But the idea is to expose them to multi-party democracy and freedom of expression," the source said.

IBM



They're great value computers. Even before the £104 cash back.

£104 Cash Back. Every time you buy an IBM PC 300GL with monitor.*

Take a computer that offers the speed and performance of Pentium® II processors at an affordable price. Then add the IBM reputation for quality, reliability and service.

Add state-of-the-art security and protection tools which back up your data at the first hint of trouble. And then subtract, yes subtract, £104 from the normal price. All you need to do is buy a great value computer now, send us a completed claim form, and receive £104 back. And because every business is different, we're also offering £104 off 13 other GL models (for example a Pentium® II processor, 266MHz, 32MB RAM, 4.2GB, Windows® 95 version with 15" monitor, for £748 ex. VAT, after rebate). For more details and the address of your nearest participating dealer, simply call Gary Landen on 0870 601 0137, or pick up a claim form right now at: www.ibm.com/pc/uk/desktop_promo.html



Prices quoted are typical buying prices. *Offer applies to selected PC 300GL Models listed on the claim form when purchased with a new IBM 15" or larger monitor (1014) available for purchase made from 8/7/98 to 21/2/98. Rebates will be sent following receipt of valid claim form together with proof of purchase. This offer is exclusive of any other promotion or special conditions. IBM reserves the right to modify or withdraw this promotion without prior notice. *Note denotes internal clock speed of the microprocessor only, unless otherwise stated, application performance (MB/sec million bytes) when referring to hard drive capacity, accessible capacity may be less. 'GB' = Gigabyte (one thousand million bytes) when referring to hard drive capacity; accessible capacity may be less. All PCs referenced in this ad include an operating system. IBM product names are trademarks of International Business Machines Corporation. Microsoft Windows and Windows NT are trademarks of Microsoft Corporation. Intel, the Intel Inside logo and Pentium are registered trademarks of Intel Corporation.

} e-business tools

سيارات الامارات



YOU WANT

A muscular V6 engine, advanced 5-speed transmission, unique interactive 4-wheel drive and sophisticated cruise control, means the Ford Explorer will easily take you wherever you want to go. And thanks to a 'DYNAMIC safety engineering system', air conditioning and electric sunroof, will always get you there in totally cocooned COMFORT. While its rugged good looks let everyone know you've arrived.

£26,320 on the road[†]
or £203 per month 8.4% APR* on Options

(plus deposit and optional final purchase payment)

EXPLORER

So, to test drive the WORLD'S BEST-SELLING 4X4, where you want to be is at your local Sport and Recreation Specialist Dealer.

Subject to availability for a limited period only. Price is based on manufacturer's recommended retail price. *OPTIONS TYPICAL EXAMPLE: Explorer, Mileage (per annum) 12,000, Deposit £5,000, APR 8.4%, Optional final payment to purchase (minimum guaranteed future value) £14,860.00. Total finance for credit £20,860.00 includes a finance facility fee of £70 payable with the first monthly payment. Total amount payable £29,000.56. Term (months) 55. 04 monthly payments of £202.65. Optional final payment to purchase (minimum guaranteed future value) £14,860.00. Total finance for credit £20,860.00 includes a finance facility fee of £70 payable with the first monthly payment. Total amount payable £29,000.56. Term (months) 55. 04 monthly payments of £202.65. Optional final payment to purchase (minimum guaranteed future value) £14,860.00. Total finance for credit £20,860.00 includes a finance facility fee of £70 payable with the first monthly payment. Total amount payable £29,000.56. Term (months) 55. 04 monthly payments of £202.65. Excludes fleets over 94 units. Finance is provided subject to status. Certain business users are ineligible. Excludes fleets over 94 units.

Tricks of burglars' trade revealed

BURGLARS OFTEN wait for their previous victims to buy new goods to replace those stolen before breaking in a second or third time, a report disclosed yesterday.

Single parents are most likely to be repeatedly targeted while the elderly are among the least at risk, says the study.

The report follows research showing that just 2 per cent of households suffer 41 per cent of all break-ins.

For mugging, assault or robbery, 1 per cent of the population has been victimised more than four times, accounting for nearly 60 per cent of all attacks.

The Home Office report, *Repeat Victimization: Taking Stock*, calls for better targeting of prolific offenders.

It gives details of a study this year in which 186 convicted burglars in West Yorkshire were questioned. They provide intriguing insights into the way criminals operate. More than a quarter admitted repeatedly raiding the same home.

One commented: "The house would be targeted again a few weeks later when the stuff had been replaced and because the first time had been easy."

"It was a chance to get things which you had seen the first time and now had a buyer for," said another. "Once you

BY JASON BENNETTO
Crime Correspondent

have been into a place it is easier to burgle because you are familiar with the layout, and you can get out much quicker."

Keys were usually hanging around, either on a shelf or the top of furniture near the door in empty houses, so they used the keys to unlock the doors to get out - and to use for the next time they broke in.

He warned: "Temporary repairs can leave a home or workplace more vulnerable to repeated burglary, with a corn-flake packet in a broken window providing no protection against another entry."

Certain types of people are more likely to have the time, money, and motivation to make quick improvements, he said.

"Lone-parent households are particularly likely to suffer crime recurrence, and the elderly are among the least likely," said Professor Pease.

He added that it is important for different police sections, such as crime prevention and proactive units, to work together in helping reduce repeat victimisation.

"The worst outcome for crime prevention would be for the approaches to be seen as somehow in competition. A turf war between those researching [crime] hot-spots, those concerned with high-crime areas and those concentrating on repeat victims would be very stupid," he said.

"If you get a good result, you go back a second time."

"I did a factory and shop twice. It's easy. It's about 25 minutes before the alarm goes off, and the shop didn't have one. They didn't learn. It was easy. I knew the woman, and she helped me, so I did it twice."

A similar logic appealed to a car criminal, the report said: "X had stolen the stereo from the same car more than once. He would return to the same street, and if he spotted the same car parked on the street he would take the stereo again if it had been replaced."

Research suggests that offenders who commit repeat

would be very stupid," he said.



A victim of repeat burglars begs to be left in peace. Just 2 per cent of households suffer over 40 per cent of all break-ins in Britain

AP

DYSON PRICE CRASH

PLUS

SAVE UP TO 50% ON A WIDE RANGE OF CLEANERS

GREAT VALUE ON BRITAIN'S BEST-SELLING CLEANER

You can now buy the best-selling Dyson DC01, with its revolutionary Dual Cyclone bagless system which ensures no loss of suction room after room, at an even lower price.

dual cyclone TECHNOLOGY

dyson

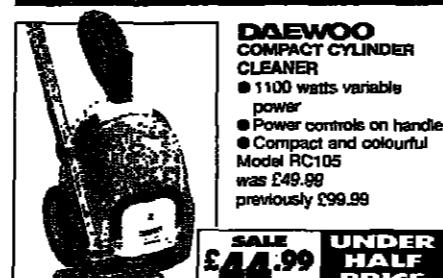
'DUAL CYCLONE' YELLOW UPRIGHT CLEANER

- 1200 watts power
- 'Dual Cyclone' bagless system
- 2 S-level electrostatic filters
- Self-adjusting head for different floor surfaces
- Extra long stair cleaning hose
- On-board tools

Sale £179.99 **Save £20**

ALSO AVAILABLE IN BLUE

SAVE OVER 50% ON BEST VALUE CYLINDERS



DAEWOO COMPACT CYLINDER CLEANER
• 1100 watts variable power
• Power controls on handle
• Compact and colourful Model RC105 was £29.99 previously £39.99

SALE £44.99 UNDER HALF PRICE



BISSELL STORM CYLINDER CLEANER
• 1400 watts variable power
• On-board tools Model EC02 was £79.99 previously £159.99

SALE £69.99 UNDER HALF PRICE EXCLUSIVE TO COMET

SAVE UP TO 50% ON TOP BRAND UPRIGHTS



HOover UPRIGHT CLEANER
• 800 watts power
• On-board tools
• Edge-to-edge cleaning
• Floor surface adjuster
• 4 filtration levels Model U2090 was £159.99 previously £199.99

SALE £79.99 HALF PRICE



PANASONIC UPRIGHT CLEANER
• 1200 watts power
• On-board tools
• Edge-to-edge cleaning
• Floor surface adjuster
• 4 filtration levels Model MC-E458 was £119.99 previously £139.99

SALE £89.99 SAVE £50



PANASONIC UPRIGHT CLEANER
• A good choice for use on mixed floor types GOOD HOUSEKEEPING INSTITUTE - RECOMMENDED
• 1200 watts power
• On-board tools
• Edge-to-edge cleaning
• Floor surface adjuster
• 4 filtration levels Model MC-E561 was £119.99 previously £139.99

SALE £109.99 SAVE £80

SAVE £40 ON HIGH PERFORMANCE UPRIGHT



Electrolux 'POWERSYSTEM' UPRIGHT CLEANER
• 1500 watts power
• On-board tools
• Cyclone cassette for bags-free vacuuming
• High filtration dust-bags & Stair cleaning hose Model 1720 was £169.99 previously £189.99

SALE £149.99 SAVE £40

THE COMET PRICE CANNOT BE BEATEN

The Comet Price Promise guarantees that if you buy any product from us, then within 14 days find the same offer on sale locally at a lower price, we'll willingly refund the difference, PLUS 10% OF THAT DIFFERENCE. Ask in store for full details.

MP who has been burgled four times at same house

IF ANYONE knows the meaning of repeat burglaries, it is Labour MP Karen Buck, who has been broken into six times.

By DIANA BLAMIRES

The member for Regent's Park and Kensington North has been burgled four times at the same house in north Westminster. After the most recent of these, in January last year, the local police told her: "Why don't you consider living somewhere safer?"

Ms Buck said: "My feeling is that people should be free to live wherever they choose, free from the risk of crime. It sometimes seems that the police feel that if you choose to live in a tough area then it is your own fault if you get burgled."

"I am not saying it's the police's fault but people should be

free to choose to live wherever they like. Of course they should take reasonable measures to protect their home against burglary."

After each break-in, security has been improved and the house now has double locks everywhere to deter thieves.

"All reasonable steps have been taken to protect the property but you don't want to live in Fort Knox," she said.

Ms Buck is certain that the same gang is to blame for at least four of the six crimes.

"They used the same method each time, smashing down the door. It would be too much of a coincidence if it wasn't the same lot responsible," she said.

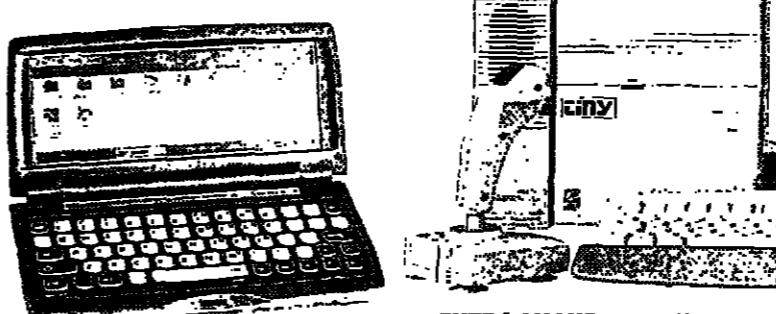


Buck: 'You don't want to live in Fort Knox'

Buy the PC, get another

FREE

The ultimate PC offer for computing at home or on the move.



WINDOWS 98 NOW INCLUDED



pentium® II

Windows 98 now included

Windows

45 die as Nigeria's anarchy worsens



Protesters with a banner calling for a republic of Oduduwa, another word for Yoruba, the main ethnic group in south-western Nigeria

THERE were more deaths in Lagos yesterday as the violence in Nigeria continued to spread. A market in central Lagos was set ablaze, and there were clashes between police and demonstrators in several other parts of the city.

BY PATRICK GOODDEN
Council was also due to discuss the possibility of overturning convictions against six men found guilty earlier this year of plotting a coup against the late military leader, Sani Abacha.

Police fired tear-gas to disperse mobs in Lagos as youths clashed with traders from the north. A television cameraman said he had seen a man clubbed to death by a mob. The death toll since the death on Tuesday of the jailed opposition leader, Moshood Abiola, was reported to have reached 45.

International pathologists, including a British doctor, Richard Shepherd, arrived in Lagos for an autopsy on Abiola. In Nigeria, there is widespread suspicion about his death. The examination might allay some of these suspicions, though things may already have got too far out of control for any real trust to be re-established. Abiola's family have suggested he may have been poisoned. The post-mortem examinations were due to take place as quickly as possible, with the funeral planned for today.

"Soon after the pathologists arrive they will meet to decide on the format for the autopsy," Abiola's doctor said in Lagos. "We expect this autopsy to take between three and four hours and soon afterwards a statement will be made."

The military junta met to discuss plans regarding a handover to civilian power and the release of more political prisoners. The Provisional Ruling

been largely caught off-balance by Abiola's death, not least because of the chaotic circumstances in Nigeria, which mean that there is no obvious replacement as a figurehead leader.

Bola Ajinnyemi, the former Nigerian foreign minister and spokesman for Nadeco (National Democratic Coalition), was surprisingly conciliatory in his reaction to a speech by Gen Abubakar on television on Wednesday night. "I think the tone of the speech was very appropriate.

"It would have been very insensitive to have dealt with political matters," he said in London yesterday. Gen Abubakar made no reference to plans for elections or the release of political prisoners.

What he had to do was reach out to the anger and the hurt that people feel over this tragedy, as if to say: 'I am suffering with you and understand your anger and frustration.'

Mr Ajinnyemi said: "Opposition groups have been keen not to stoke the flames at a time when the unrest could easily spiral out of control. Opposition leaders have asked people to react calmly to the news of Abiola's death."

The South African Deputy President, Thabo Mbeki, was due to meet Gen Abubakar during a visit planned long before Abiola's death.

The United States issued a warning to avoid "all unnecessary travel".

Leading article, Review, page 3

Cypriots test new missiles in Russia

RUSSIA HAS provided a practical demonstration of the air-defence missile system that it plans to sell to Cyprus, despite international calls for the deal to be cancelled because it could cause a military show-down on the divided island.

Cypriot servicemen yesterday tested the S-300 system by launching missiles at dummy rockets flying over a remote Russian firing range at the north end of the Caspian Sea. A spokesman for the Russian Defence Ministry, which trained the Cypriots, announced afterwards that they "shot down several targets with nearly 100 per cent practice firing efficiency".

Russia appears eager to press ahead with the sale, despite both criticism from the West and the certainty of incurring the wrath of Turkey, which has threatened to destroy the missiles if they ever arrive on Cypriot turf, prompting fears of renewed conflict on the island.

But Moscow needs the money—at least £123m. This pos-

BY PHIL REEVES
in Moscow

Moscow, which has vowed to oppose their admission.

The issue of the missile system goes beyond air control of the island, which is in the hands of the Turks. US sources say it includes radar coverage of territory beyond Cyprus which, if accessible to Athens, would aggravate tensions over control of the Aegean.

Sigars are emerging, however, that the missiles may be most useful as a ploy to lure the Turks back to the negotiating table. Cyprus has put back the delivery date several times, and now it is not expected until at least November.

Nato's shadow has been in particular evidence recently. The Turkish side, which occupies one-third of the island, has said it will only return to the table if the Greek Cypriots recognise their government, the TRNC. Cyprus's next move may become clearer today, when the Cypriot Defence Minister Ioannis Omirou, meets his Russian counterpart, Marshal Igor Sergeyev.

IMF offers lifeline to desperate Kremlin

BATTERED BUT unbowed by draining reserves, tumbling stocks, labour strife and market rumours that he is actually dead, Boris Yeltsin appeared on Russian television yesterday and vowed to stand by his pledge not to devalue the rouble.

His up-beat remarks came as Moscow edged closer to a deal with the International Monetary Fund over a \$10.15bn (£6.9bn) loan to underwrite its battle to defend the currency in

By PHIL REEVES
in Moscow

the face of fleeing investors, rattled by the Asian crisis, falling oil prices, and Russia's domestic economic woes. John Oding-Smee, a senior IMF official, reaches Moscow today for talks on the loan with Anatoly Chubais. The economics maestro was sacked by Boris Yeltsin in March only to be recalled to the Kremlin to help dig the country out of its worsening fiscal crisis.

Yesterday Mr Chubais said the talks, which also involve the World Bank, could be concluded soon. Whether this will enable Russia to protect the rouble—one of the few achievements of Russia's incomplete transition to a market economy—remains to be seen.

Mr Yeltsin, who looked relatively well, told viewers he had a "plan of action", although he did not spell it out. He may have been referring to a package of anti-crisis measures demanded by the IMF which are at present before parliament.

The crisis has sent Moscow into a political frenzy, driven by Mr Yeltsin's opponents, which has led to a renewal of speculation about his health, devaluation, runaway inflation and—albeit improbably—the possibility of a coup.

The mood is unlikely to be dampened by the introduction of an anti-crisis package or



Boris Yeltsin, needs \$15bn

WHY PAY UP TO 200% MORE FOR YOUR PHONE BILL?

Join WCN UKPlus where every call is a local call!

Weekend rates. The entire UK for only 1p per minute

Save up to 67% on International calls

Great savings on mobile calls

Call 0800 458 0007 Start saving now

© 1998 WCN Communications Network. All rights reserved. WCN is a registered trademark of WCN Communications Network Ltd. WCN is not affiliated with BT or Vodafone. Calls are charged at standard rates.

adidas Timberland MIRELLI Betty Barclay JEANS ICEBERG AMANDA WALLACE Reebok linea KASPER GUESS? ONEIDA

John Rocha Gossard

PHILOSOPHY ALBERTA FERRETTI FENN WRIGHT MANSON

WARNERS Frank Usher SHERIDAN NICOLI FARM FRENCH CONNECTION

HOUSE OF FRASER

ARMY & NAVY • DAVID EVANS • DICKINS & JONES • BINNS • BARKERS • DH EVANS • HOWELLS • JOLLYS

ARNOTTS • CWENDISH HOUSE • HOUSE OF FRASER • FRASERS • DINGLES • KENDALS • RACKHAMS • HAMMONDS

Certain merchandise not available at all stores.



HOUSE OF FRASER

World Cup: The biggest celebration since the Allied liberation grips Paris while Croatia accepts defeat with dignity

France unites in football victory

THE BRAVEST man in Paris on Wednesday night was the man who cycled the wrong way around the Arc de Triomphe, carrying a Brazilian flag. Moving the other way (quite slowly, admittedly) were hundreds of screaming cars draped in French flags; a man wheeling his red-white-and-blue painted friend in a wheelchair; a large articulated truck turned into a mobile disco of cowering banner-waving youngsters; and thousands of shrieking, dancing pedestrians and roller-skaters.

The lone Brazilian passed through unscathed: it was that kind of night.

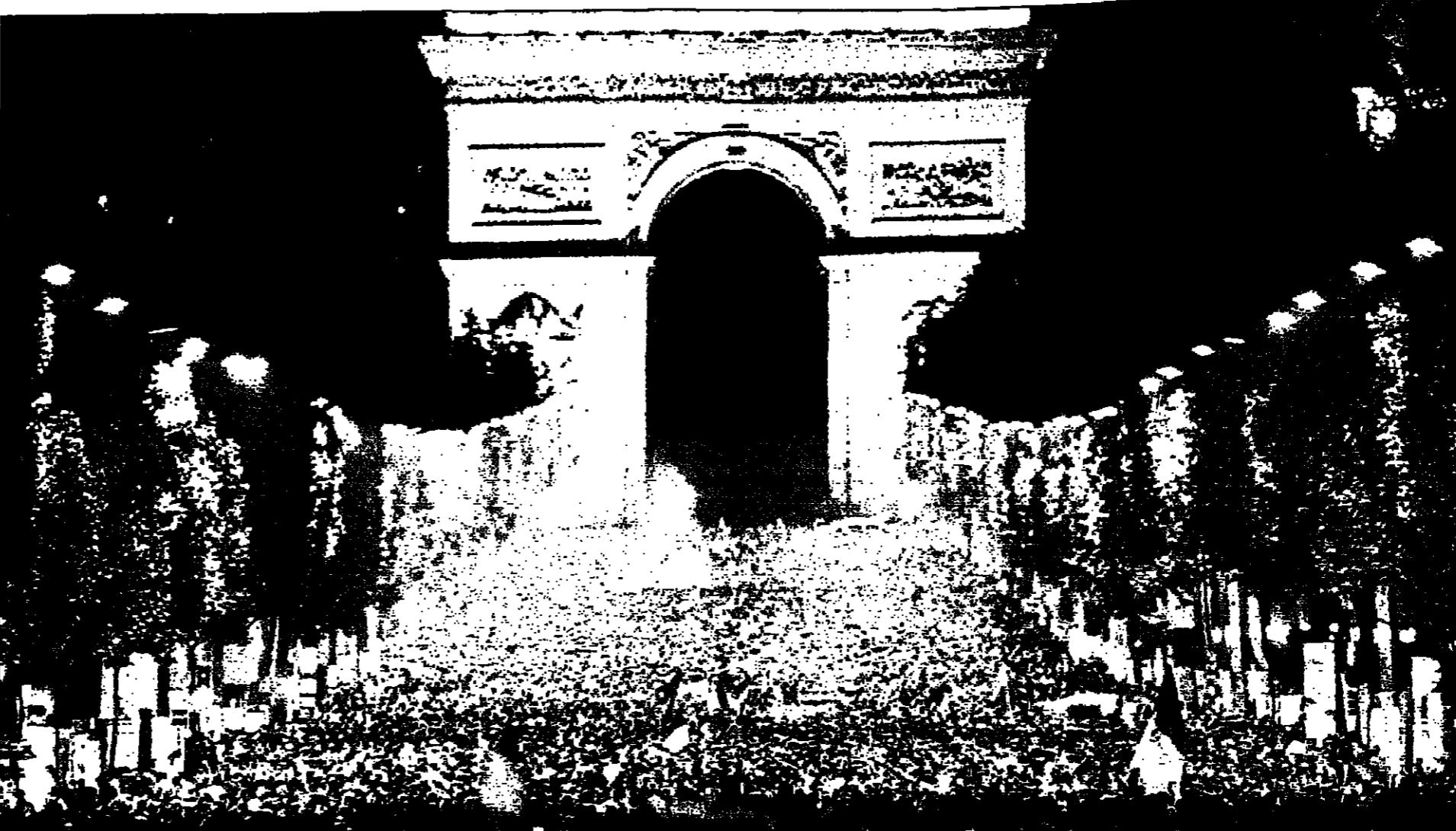
The world's most celebrated triumphal arch was built with other kinds of bloodier victories in mind but 2-1 against Croatia would do nicely. France was through to the World Cup final for the first time and the whole

BY JOHN LICHFIELD
in Paris

country had gone crazy. Older revellers said they had not seen such a display of abandoned emotion in Paris since the Liberation in 1944. At one point, soon after midnight, the whole of the Champs Elysées was blocked by people: a two-mile street party, 300,000 strong.

A young black man organised a Mexican Wave, perhaps the first ever attempted outside a stadium. He persuaded thousands of people to sit down on the world's most beautiful avenue and then spring into the air at once shouting "Ole". It was quite a sight.

It was fitting he should be a young black man. For a country preoccupied by its racial problems there was something



Hundreds of thousands of football fans pack the Champs Elysées in Paris in celebration of France's 2-1 semi-final victory over Croatia

Jerome Delay/AP

self-consciously and movingly multi-racial about the night's events. Lilian Thuram, born in Dieppe of African parents, scored both goals for an ethnic rainbow of a French team. The crowd chanted:

"Thuram - President Thuram - President."

Thousands of youths of Arab extraction from the troubled inner suburbs of the capital poured on to the Champs Elysées as the night went on,

as they always do when there is a big party to celebrate, or to spoil. This time they were in strictly celebration mood.

Karim said: "We are here for the party, not to kick up shit. The French team is our team.

[Thierry] Henry, [David] Trézéguet, are our cousins, from the suburbs like us."

Francis Iando, 25, born in Benin, was wearing a French football jersey and walking down the Champs Elysées kissing strangers. He said: "Where are you tonight Jean-Marie Le Pen? I was not born in France but I love France. And you see, it was a black French man who won the game for a white, brown, black French team. What a wonderful night."

Jean-Marie Bernard, 59, who was five when Allied troops entered Paris in August 1944, said: "This is about more than football. All of France is here. I have seen nothing like it before. Not since the Liberation."

He was right: it was about more than football. This was a shout of joy to end four or five years of quite uncharacteristic French pessimism. (The economy is looking up, after all.) This was a joyous national celebration in a country in which the banner of nationalism has

been besmirched by Mr Le Pen and his National Front.

Because it was about something harmless, and all-important, like football, and because it was evidently multi-racial, all political complexes could be gratefully set aside.

Until this World Cup, it was common for the suburban youth of Arab extraction to support any team but France.

The presence of players such as Zinedine Zidane and Thierry

Henry has changed all that.

Until this World Cup, France was not noted as a fervent football-supporting nation.

Michel Platini, former French captain and manager, now President of the World Cup organising committee, famously described France as a "nation of spectators, not supporters".

Three things have changed: that the fact the team has been winning; the fact the tournament is in France; and the presence of the mostly French crowd at the stadium. He offered an explanation: most of the 80,000 tickets had gone to football officials and sponsors and friends of sponsors.

Marcel Desailly, the Ghanaian-born but French-raised central defender, pointed to this paradox. Most of the French people in the crowd did not even seem to be wearing a French football shirt or scarf, he said. There is another outstanding question: what on earth will the Parisian crowds do for an encore if France wins the World Cup on Sunday night?

Monitor, Review, page 3

Not everything has changed.

The favour of the crowds in the centre of Paris, most of whom had not been to the match, contrasted strangely with the quietness of the home crowd in the Stade de France five miles away an hour or two earlier.

Aimé Jacquet, the French coach, said he compared with "some bitterness" the noise made by the revellers and the passivity of the mostly French crowd at the stadium. He offered an explanation: most of

the 80,000 tickets had gone to football officials and sponsors and friends of sponsors.

Marcel Desailly, the Ghanaian-born but French-raised central defender, pointed to this paradox. Most of the French people in the crowd did not even seem to be wearing a French football shirt or scarf, he said. There is another outstanding question: what on earth will the Parisian crowds do for an encore if France wins the World Cup on Sunday night?

Monitor, Review, page 3

The Link

CELLNET FIRST INTRODUCTORY OFFER
20% OFF
BRITAIN'S BIGGEST CHOICE OF MOBILES*
— OVER 30 CELLNET MOBILES IN-STORE



SAVE OVER
£105*

£1.99*
VOUCHER
PRICE
Plus £35 for Connection



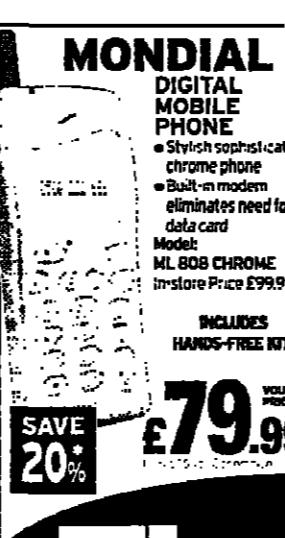
SAVE
20%
£7.99*
FREE
HANDSFREE KIT
WORTH £39.99



SAVE
20%
£7.99*
FREE
HANDSFREE KIT
WORTH £39.99



SAVE
20%
£39.99*
FREE
HANDSFREE KIT
WORTH £39.99



SAVE
20%
£79.99*
FREE
HANDSFREE KIT
WORTH £39.99

FIRST
cellnet
Off-peak calls from as little as
2 p PER MINUTE*
FIRST FOR FAIRNESS

If you sign up to any Cellnet tariff and find you would have paid less on another tariff, Cellnet will refund the difference.

FIRST FOR FAMILIES

Choose your 10 most used Private or Business numbers and save up to 50%. Calls from just 2p a minute.

FIRST FOR FREEDOM

Forget lengthy 12 month contracts, all Cellnet require is 30 days' notice! PLUS - get a 15% discount if you sign for 5 years.

£ GUARANTEED LOWEST PRICES

If you find exactly the same package cheaper locally within 7 days, we will refund the difference.

133 STORES NATIONWIDE FREEPHONE 0500 222 666

For your nearest store or to order direct

Silence, then a sense of a job well done

BY MARCUS TANNER

LAST SATURDAY there was euphoria and shooting in the air. But on Wednesday night in the Croatian capital, Zagreb, there was just silence. Croats returned to earth and a more normal existence after Croatia's 2-1 defeat at the hands of France with resignation: a conviction that a good job had been done, and, in some cases, relief that the almost unbearable tension of their stunning win over Germany had been deflated.

One Croat housewife said: "It was like a horror movie living here while it was all going on," Pierre Simulovic said: "We were pretty much satisfied with what we achieved against Germany. Anything on top of what we had achieved ... would just have been a bonus".

Croats revelled in the attention their country received after reaching the semi-finals of the World Cup and welcomed the coverage which raised its profile abroad, finally convinc-

Croats. So I really wasn't disappointed by the end result. I felt worse about [Goran] Ivanisevic losing at Wimbledon."

On the other side of the Yugoslav divide, in Belgrade, Serbs were transfixed by the game as their Croat enemies. Surprisingly, given their enmity since the Serb-Croat war of 1991, many Serbs rooted more for the Croats than for the French team.

"When [the Croats] beat the Germans we were delighted", said Blagoje Dikic, in Belgrade. "People fired guns in celebration. Some people even said: 'We did it.' He added: "We know all these guys. In a sense, they were our boys, too. [Robert] Prosinecki used to play in the Red Star [Belgrade]."

"When the France-Croatia match was on, the streets of Belgrade were empty. I am a Serb from Croatia, so I should hate Croats more than anyone, but I still wanted them to win."

Football falls flat at auction

BY LINUS GREGORIADIS

AN AUCTION house paid the price for an overdose of World Cup football yesterday when it failed to sell a succession of football souvenirs.

The red jersey worn by Roger Hunt during England's 1966 World Cup final triumph, the centrepiece of Sotheby's first-ever auction devoted entirely to football, failed to reach its reserve price. The highest bid for the long-sleeved top, which was expected to sell for between £30,000 and £50,000, was only £19,000.

Mr Hunt's shirt belongs to Wolfgang Weber, the German footballer who swapped tops with him at Wembley following England's epic 4-2 victory after extra time. Mr Weber's own shirt fared little better at auction. It was predicted that his jersey would fetch between £10,000 and £15,000 but the top bid was only £3,000.

A spokeswoman for Sotheby's, London, said yesterday:

market to see how much people are prepared to pay."

The packed auction room, decked out with jerseys, flags, and programmes, was a football anorak's paradise and many of the sale's 647 lots did manage to find an owner. However, many of the auction's most illustrious items failed to arouse the anticipated level of interest.

The football which was used in Pele's farewell game for Brazil against Yugoslavia in 1971 received a highest bid of £50,000 when it was expected to fetch at least £3,000. The boots worn by Kevin Keegan in his last game as a professional also failed to sell, as did a tracksuit owned by the Liverpool manager Bob Paisley.

Among the auction's successes was the sale of a cap won by George Best playing for Northern Ireland which fetched £3,450, and a referee's whistle used in the 1982 FA Cup final which was sold for £1,150.



Roger Hunt's shirt is prepared for auction

"We are incredibly disappointed that the Roger Hunt top didn't sell but we are reasonably confident that we will find a buyer after the sale. It is still an important piece of football history. There has never been a sale of football memorabilia in London before. To a certain extent we were testing the

The Link

*When you take out a new connection to a Cellnet Digital monthly tariff, 20% discount not available on Upgrades. First for Phones, Live Advance or Pre-Pay Packages. Live rental starts from £17.50 per month. *Return of the phone is required if cancellation is within the first 12 months. **When you connect to Cellnet First and opt for all the discounts on offer with Cellnet First plus the Cell Server option at £2.50 per month. Connection to mobile phones is subject to status. A deposit may be required. Ask In-store for details.



Ex-Argentine leader on baby-snatching charges



Hebe de Bonafini (centre), the head of Argentina's Mothers of Plaza de Mayo group, whose children disappeared during the dirty war AP

THE FORMER Argentine junta leader General Jorge Videla got away with murder. Sixty-six murders, 300 kidnappings and 100 cases of torture to be exact. But he may not get away with baby-snatching.

General Videla, 71, who ousted President Isabel Peron in a 1976 military coup, faces the rest of his life in jail for one of the cruellest aspects of the 1976-83 "Dirty War" - abducting babies from detained liberal women and giving or selling them to childless military or police officers for a "Christian upbringing".

The mothers, mostly students, professionals or housewives whose only "crime" was to be opposed to military rule, were often induced to give birth, blindfolded and with hands bound, in special maternity wards set up in military bases, according to nurses employed by the military at the time.

The mothers were then "disappeared", some drugged, stripped naked and thrown alive from aircraft into the Atlantic Ocean, according to a repentant military officer who took part. Most of the hundreds of children, now in their late teens or early twenties, are still with their adoptive parents, many unaware of their true roots.

Some have been returned to grandmothers or aunts after court cases. Others have never been traced, despite efforts by a group of grandmothers known

BY PHIL DAVISON
Latin America Correspondent

as "The Grannies of the Plaza de Mayo".

Gen Videla, who headed the junta until shortly before the 1982 Falklands war, was sentenced to life in jail along with other senior officers in 1985 for mass murder, kidnapping and torture during his regime, when an estimated 30,000 Argentines were killed or "disappeared". But all the officers were pardoned and freed in 1990 by President Carlos Menem in "an act of conciliation".

Now, Gen Videla, who could be seen at Sunday mass every week in the Belgrano district of Buenos Aires, is back in jail. A federal judge, Roberto Marquez, ruled last week that "crimes against children" were not covered by Mr Menem's amnesty and the general must face trial on at least five specific cases of child abduction and possibly several dozen more.

Other former officers, including Leopoldo Galtieri, the man who launched the invasion of the Falklands in 1982, could face similar charges, with potential jail terms of up to 25 years.

"God Exists!" screamed the liberal daily *Pagina 12* in a bold front-page headline, over a doctored photograph of Gen Videla in a striped prison uniform, after his arrest. "This represents progress over impunity and gives us some hope that real justice will one day be done over this genocide," said Alfredo Bravo, an opposition legislator.

"Although Nazism was the sum of all possible horror, Argentina's military rose to new heights by keeping the newborn children of the women whom it tortured and "disappeared", a columnist, Gina Montzner, wrote in the Miami-based Spanish-language daily *El Nuevo Herald*.

"The guards and torturers at Nazi extermination camps did not take Jewish children home to turn them into Aryans ... to Argentine officers the problem was ideological in nature and therefore modifiable."

An Argentine police doctor, Jorge Beres, earned the nickname of "the Argentine Mengel" (after the Nazi torturer Josef Mengel) for torturing and experimenting on female detainees during the "Dirty War", but, after the 1990 amnesty, worked openly as Medical Commissioner for the Buenos Aires police, until public pressure forced his suspension in March.

Since Gen Videla's arrest, Judge Marquez has received death threats, including one not-so-subtle warning, unsigned but written on official Argentine army paper, threatening many Argentines to fear that the judge may bow to military pressure and drop the case.

With an eye on public opinion in the run-up to an expected third run at the presidency next year, Mr Menem has indicated he will not consider a pardon this time round.

Two of the individual cases facing Gen Videla involve Pablo and Carolina Bianco, born of "disappeared" women and adopted by Dr Norberto Bianco, who ran the "maternity ward" at the Campo de Mayo military hospital during military rule. Dr Bianco is now in jail but the two children, who refused to take DNA tests which might identify their real parents,

The "Grannies of the Plaza de Mayo" - a separate group from the headscarfed mothers who have marched round the same square for more than 20 years - are mothers of disappeared women who accept their children are dead but believe their grandchildren are alive. By publishing snapshots of their missing grandchildren, they have so far traced 60, most of whom have been returned to blood relatives after court cases. They are still looking for more than 200 specific victims and believe there could be a further 300 young men or women who will never know their true origins because their families did not know of the pregnancy at the time.

One of the grandmothers, Elsa Pavon, 61, traced her granddaughter Paula in 1983, five years after Mrs Pavon's daughter and son-in-law disappeared. After an anonymous tip that a child of her age - then seven - and description was living in the home of a former policeman, Mrs Pavon spent weeks on a park bench in Buenos Aires watching the house.

Eventually, she plucked up the nerve to knock on the door, posing as a saleswoman. "I saw her there. It was like looking at Monica, my daughter, as a child. It was uncanny," Mrs Pavon said. After genetic tests, she won custody of her granddaughter, now a 22-year-old student of cinema, in 1988.

"Finally, justice was recognising her existence," she said. "But it was also recognising the existence of my own daughter, Monica, and her husband, Claudio. They had tried to wipe them from history, but they couldn't."



Gen Jorge Videla: Back in jail AP/La Nacion

Aphrodisiac fad destroys stocks of sea horses

BY STEPHEN VINES
in Hong Kong

ASIA'S ONCE plentiful population of sea horses is in steep decline, thanks to a combination of freak weather conditions and man's hunger for aphrodisiacs.

Conservationists meeting in the Philippine province of Cebu this week have been told that the situation for sea horses is now acute.

"We still have time but there is grave cause for concern," said Heather Hall, of the Zoological Society in London.

The El Nino weather effect has had a damaging impact on marine life throughout Asia. In some Asian waters, which played host to large numbers of sea horses, the phenomenon of so-called "red tides" composed of vast quantities of dead algae, which are directly related to changes in the weather, have choked the marine life.

The sea horses are also facing another threat in the form of a heavy demand for their bodies, which are pulped for use in Chinese medicine. Therefore, believe that sea horse forms a vital ingredient in aphrodisiacs.

Traditional Chinese doctors use the sea-horse broth to treat problems with the kidney.



The sea horse is in steep decline in Asian waters

which they consider one of the five vital organs in the body. The kidney is considered to be a cooling or water element, which helps revive or soothe other parts of the body that have become inflamed.

But the kidney is also considered the source of a successful sex life. Many followers of Chinese medicine, therefore, believe that sea horse forms a vital ingredient in aphrodisiacs.

As the popularity of traditional or alternative medicine increases, the sea horse is under greater pressure than ever.

War crime court may be killed off by UN arguments

BY RUPERT CORNWELL

WITH JUST a week of negotiating time to go, representatives of more than 150 countries yesterday faced the growing prospect that, despite years of preparation, their efforts to create a permanent International Criminal Court will end in failure.

"Time is running short," the United Nations Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, warned yesterday in a letter to the conference in Rome attempting to finalise agreement on the court. And one human rights group specialist forecast a "nailbiting" climate. "It depends on who keeps their nerve," he said.

But supporters of a powerful and independent court have increasingly been forced to accept that such is the resistance of a disparate bloc of countries ranging from the US to France, China, and a clutch of Arab states, that a watered-down and circumscribed ICC is the best to be hoped for.

In fact, what is being played out is the building of the UN's Food and Agriculture Organisation in central Rome is a hideously complex game of diplomatic chess in which 100 or more officials and legal experts from almost every coun-

try on earth have been in a virtually non-stop meeting for more than three weeks.

The prize is tantalising: a court under the aegis of the UN, with its own prosecutor and staff, which would try genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes such as those before the present special tribunals dealing with the civil wars in the former Yugoslavia and in Rwanda.

But the chances of a comprehensive deal being struck before the deadline of 17 July look slim at best, despite marathon negotiating sessions which continue until 10pm, night after night, often with hours of drafting and redrafting work after that.

No less than four basic "packages" are at present circulating under constant amendment and constantly shifting support.

But the basic faultlines remain: between 50 odd "like-minded" countries including Britain, which want a strong court, the US and France which want one subordinate to the Security Council and the veto powers of the Council's five

permanent members, and a bloc of states including Mexico, India and Pakistan and various Arab countries which would rather have no court at all.

Alone among the P-5, Britain favours a strong court; but its potential as broker of a deal is undermined by divisions between the Foreign Office, broadly in favour of a strong court, and the Home Office and Ministry of Defence which detest the notion of an independent prosecutor.

They are haunted by Northern Ireland," Harriet Harman, of Amnesty, said yesterday, "they don't want something like Bloody Sunday to end up before an international court."

Other unresolved issues include "consent", i.e. whether countries where an alleged crime is committed or whose nationals are the accused, must first give permission for a case to be brought.

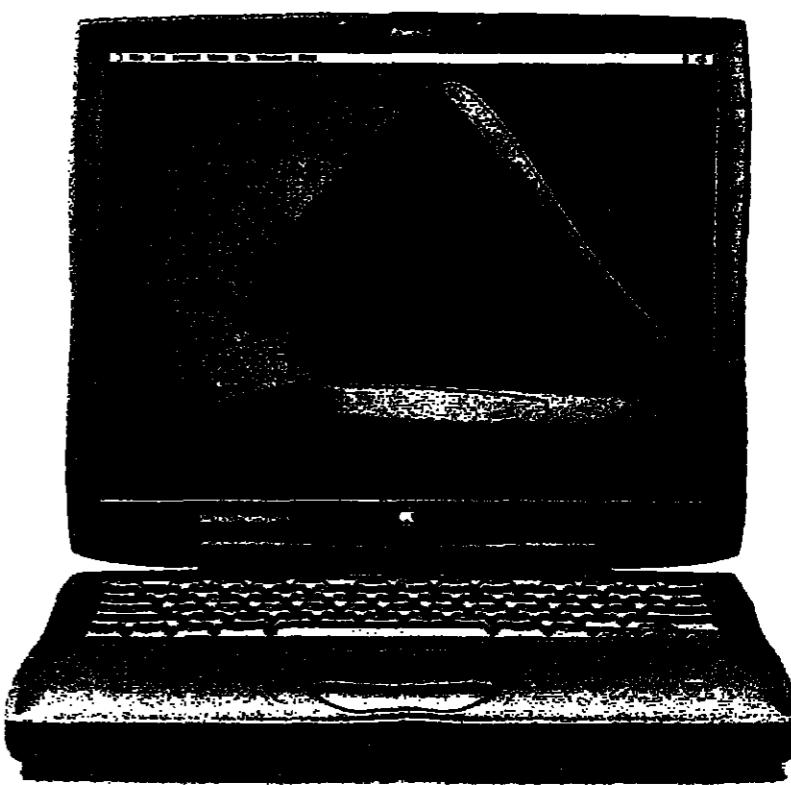
In the end, however, all the jockeying could be academic. "Whatever is agreed, the US won't sign it for years," one expert predicted last night. Many human rights groups argue that a weak court would be a worse outcome than no court at all.



Hungry for speed?

Presenting the PowerBook G3. The fastest notebook in the world. Built on the furiously fast PC G3 chip, it's up to three times faster than any PC notebook*. So you can tear through any project at frightening speed. To find out more, call 0870 608 8660 and ask for details of your nearest John Lewis.

But hurry, they're going fast.



Quick. Go to John Lewis.

Need speed? You'll find the new PowerBook G3 at all John Lewis Department Stores (except Caleys and Knight and Lee).



Authorised Retailer

*By 1997 market value test. © 1998 Apple Computer Inc. All rights reserved. Apple, the Apple logo and PowerBook are registered trademarks of Apple Computer Inc. PowerPC is a trademark of International Business Machines Corporation, used under license therefrom. All other product names are registered trademarks or trademarks of their respective companies.

Earthquake stirs fears for Turkish nuclear reactor

TURKEY'S RECENT earthquake, which killed more than 140 people in the south-east, has inflamed controversy over plans to build the country's first nuclear power station.

Akkuyu, the proposed site for the new reactor on the Mediterranean coast, is about 180km from Adana, the epicentre of the quake.

Greenpeace opposed the construction of the plant from the start five years ago, saying it would be at risk from tremors. It claims the latest disaster has confirmed their worst fears, and is calling on Turkey to suspend the project immediately.

The organisation says the risk posed by earthquakes in the region has not been investigated. It claims between 1871 and 1975 there were more than 50 quakes within a 200km radius of Akkuyu, and a quake with a magnitude of more than eight on the Richter scale is possible in the region. The last quake had a magnitude of six.

BY JUSTIN HUGGLER
in Istanbul

The government insists Greenpeace is being alarmist. The design is such that the reactor could take a head-on impact from a 747 jet," said Professor Mustafa Erik, head of earthquake engineering at Istanbul University.

"It can be shut down safely even if an earthquake with a magnitude of six occurs directly beneath the reactor," he insisted.

"With earthquakes, location is as important as magnitude. The risk of bigger quakes than that comes only from faults some distance from Akkuyu."

The problem is no one can agree on where these "faults" lie. Professor Erik says the active Erciyes fault line is 140km from Akkuyu. Greenpeace thinks it is only 25km away.

The earthquake row is one of several problems the planned reactor has encountered. It has also met strong

local opposition. Local environmentalists recently lost a court battle to stop the project which they said threatened the environment.

The council in the nearby town of Silifke says local people are scared the reactor will endanger their health. The council claims the reactor will wreck attempts to develop tourism.

Ankara plans to build 10 reactors by the year 2020, claiming the fast-growing Turkish economy needs them to supply its energy needs. At the moment, Turkey suffers badly from power cuts in big cities.

Greenpeace insists at least 30 per cent of Turkey's energy is lost through inefficient distribution, and that the government has yet to look at alternative energy sources.

Three consortiums are bidding to build the reactor: one headed by the Canadian firm AECL, one by the US firm Westinghouse and one by Siemens in Germany. The AECL group includes the

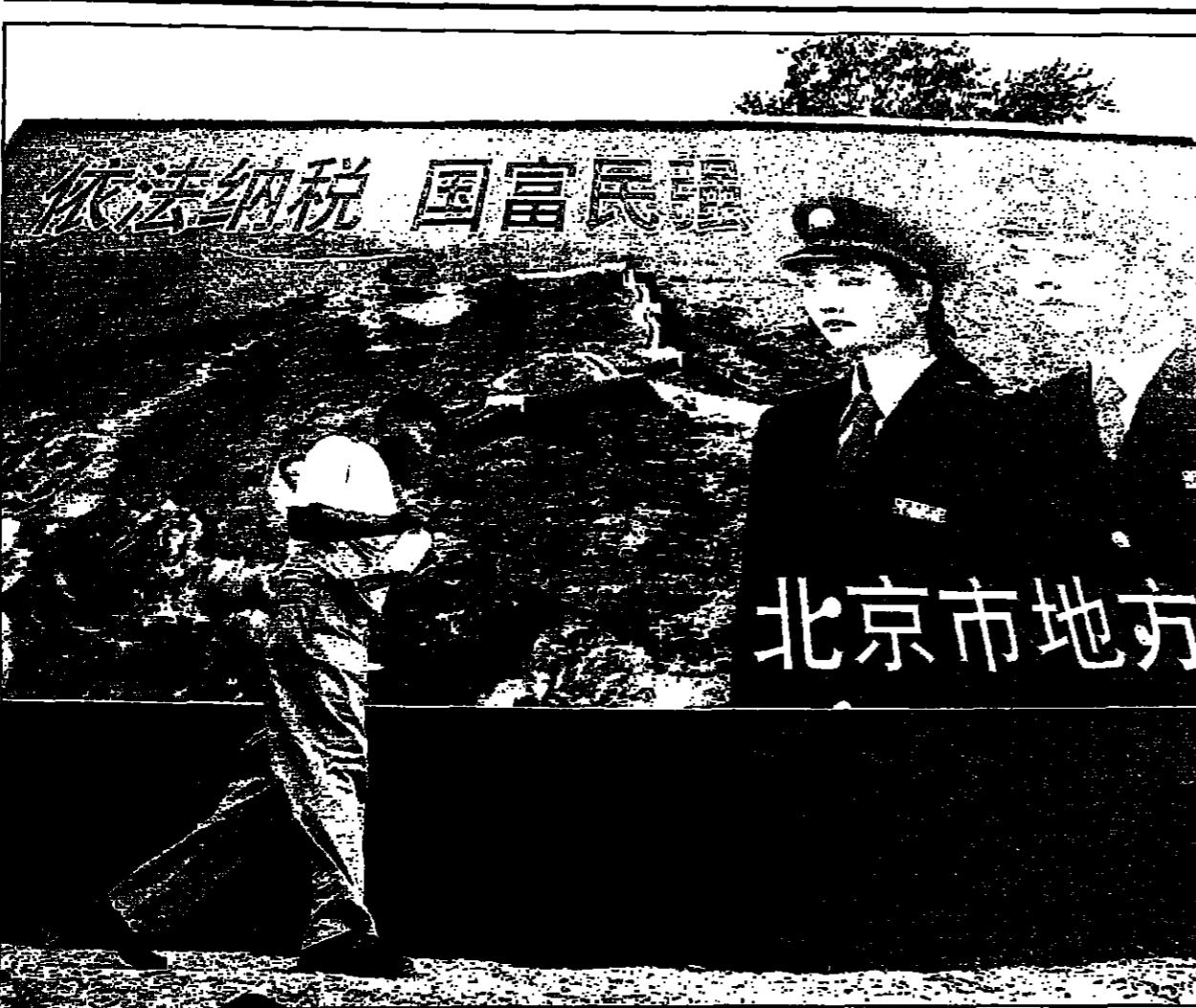
British company Kvaerner-John Brown.

Turkish green groups suspect Western companies are off-loading on to Turkey technology which they don't want. Ankara is "putting the profits of multinationals ahead of the Turkish people", Melda Kesku of Istanbul Greenpeace said.

Professor Erik said the new reactor is the least of Turkey's worries. "There's much more danger from the old Soviet reactor near our border with Armenia. We ought to concentrate more on the number of cigarettes we smoke."

■ Lisbon (Reuters) — A strong earthquake hit the Portuguese mid-Atlantic Azores islands, killing 10 people and injuring around 90.

The Portuguese Prime Minister Antonio Guterres department is bidding for the hardest hit island Faial to inspect damage as the central government sent in a team of doctors and nurses to help find people buried under the rubble of their homes.



A Chinese man walks past a billboard which urges residents to pay their taxes. Peking is trying to reform its tax system in order to crack down on those evading taxes
Greg Baker/AP

IN BRIEF

Bid to free hostage Britons falls

SECURITY forces in Chechnya have failed in an attempt to free two Britons and two Hungarians being held hostage in the separatist Russian region. Chechen officials say they believe British aid workers Camilla Carr and Jon James and Hungarian aid workers Istvan Olah and Gabor Dunajsky are still alive.

Nepal accused of atrocities

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL has accused Nepal of atrocities against suspected members of an extreme communist insurgent group, the Maoist Communist Party of Nepal (CPN), which opposes the kingdom's constitutional monarch.

La Nina brings more cold snaps

EL NINO has waned, but its cold sibling La Nina has appeared sooner than expected and looks set to further disrupt global climate patterns, an expert at the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) said yesterday.

Fishing boat collides with whale

A FISHING boat collided yesterday with a whale in Tokyo Bay, hurting one person seriously and causing minor head injuries to six others, the coast guard said.

Nuns seized in Rwanda

HUTU rebels kidnapped a Canadian and two Rwandan nuns in an attack in north-western Rwanda that also left a local official dead. The attack was at Bungwe, 60 miles north of the capital, Kigali.

Turkey's flavour of the month

TURKISH demand for turkey meat has boomed since intensive farming of the bird was introduced five months ago, producers said.

SUZANNE MOORE

"Now there really is a wonder drug that makes sex better for everyone. Men, women and goats. And guess what? It's not lager"

— THE FRIDAY REVIEW, PAGE 5 →

Gibraltar woos Spanish with deal on airport

BY ELIZABETH NASH
in Madrid

GIBRALTAR IS urging Spain to co-operate over future joint use of the airport on the Rock. Gibraltar's Chief Minister, Peter Caruana, said both Spain and Gibraltar would benefit from freer air communications between them.

At present, Spain allows only British Airways flights in and out of London and some flights from Morocco to land in Gibraltar. This means links between Madrid and the Rock must take place by rail, road or via a long detour.

"We are very willing to permit Spanish use and exploitation of the airport and the participation of Spanish companies to help run it. But we will not accept joint ownership, which would put into doubt our sovereignty over the airport," Mr Caruana said.

Gibraltar's leader wants to pursue the idea of an airport that serves both sides of the border, in the same way as the French airport at Mulhouse permits access to Switzerland without passengers having to pass through cumbersome immigration procedures.

The problem is that Gibraltar airport, unlike the Swiss/French arrangement, is situated on disputed territory, the isthmus that links the old

Rock fortress with the Spanish border town of La Linea. Madrid refuses to open discussions on the airport until it has won the right to plant the Spanish flag on it.

Britain, on Spain's insistence, excluded Gibraltar from Europe's "open skies" regime soon after Spain joined the European Union in 1985.

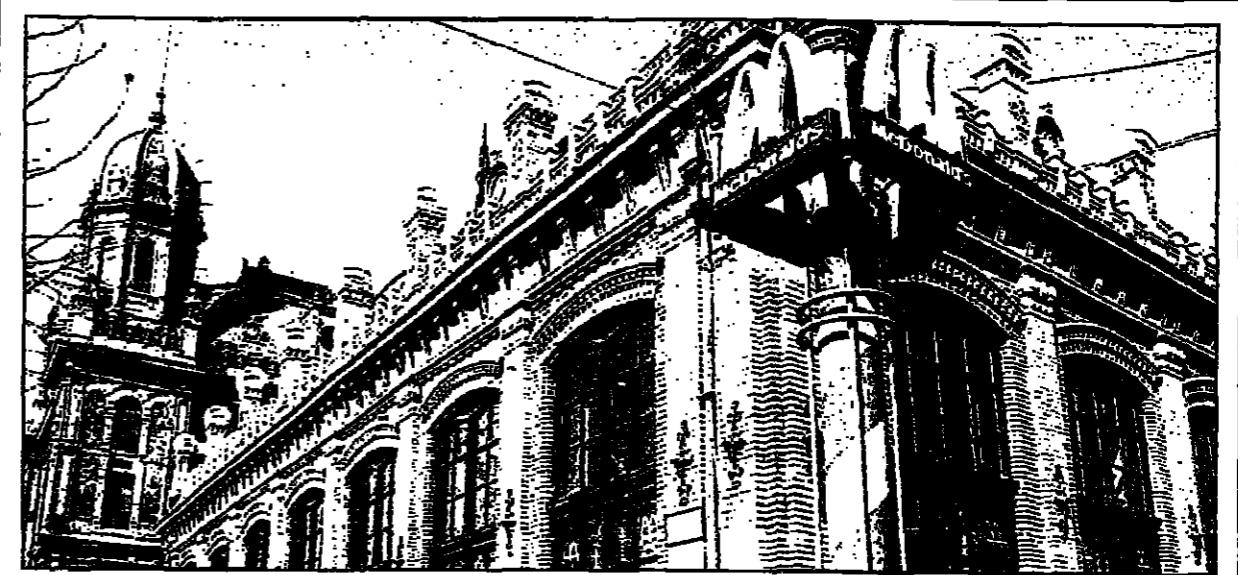
Mr Caruana says he hopes to meet the Spanish Foreign Minister Abel Matutes to discuss the matter. "I am waiting for Mr Matutes to name a date," he said.

"We would not talk about sovereignty of course, but it could help dispel old suspicions and distrust, and could mark the beginning of a new relationship."

Spain has recently softened its once strident sovereignty claims to Gibraltar in favour of a more conciliatory proposal for a long period of joint Anglo-Spanish sovereignty, which would eventually lead to the absorption of the Rock into Spain, and only then if the Gibraltarians agreed.

Mr Caruana is not entirely persuaded of Spain's good intentions. "We are not prepared to exchange one colonial master for another. That is unacceptable," he said.

"But for the first time, it seems that Madrid has conceded the principle of consent. That is positive."



The arrival of McDonald's is just part of a modern, Westernised boom in Budapest

AP

Feeling lost on the road to a glittering capitalist future

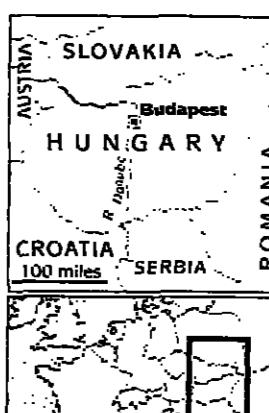
EUROPEAN TIMES BUDAPEST

Nora Milotay who admit that their lives have been transformed by opening up to the West, something more valuable than shiny consumer goods has brought mixed blessings.

Under the Hungarian capital's visionary mayor, Gabor Demszky, the city has been transformed from a drab, dilapidated Communist capital to a buzzing metropolis. It can sit proudly now, alongside London, Rome or even Paris. Hungary has received billions of dollars' worth of foreign investment since the collapse of Communism in 1989 and about half of that has made its way to Budapest; a quarter of the total spent on the whole region has been poured into a single city.

Much of it has been well-spent. In downtown Pest, shiny glass and steel offices soar skywards – concrete metaphors for the city's reach into the sunny capitalist future. Nor has Budapest's beautiful architectural heritage been neglected: magnificent Art Nouveau and Habsburg buildings have been carefully renovated, once-grimy alleys are now atmospherically lit pedestrian precincts.

The city boasts everything many deem essential to modern urban life: a galaxy of gourmet restaurants, multiplex cinemas; mobile telephone networks and Internet connections; a buzzing nightlife and designer clothes shops. But for women such as



liberalising the economy and allowing limited private enterprise, often planning their own lucrative capitalist futures on the way.

It was their farsightedness which eventually opened up a whole new world of possibilities for Nora Milotay. A graduate of Central European University (CEU), Budapest, and now on a PhD scholarship at Cambridge, Ms Milotay readily admits that her life has also improved in many ways since the collapse of Communism.

The Hungarians, a nation whose inventive citizens brought the world everything from atomic bombs and the ball-point pen to Rubik's cube, have always proved adaptive. The outgoing Communist leaders saw the writing on the wall a long time before the apollochiks of the Kremlin.

Funded by the billionaire financier and philanthropist George Soros, himself a Hungarian, the CEU is a marble and chrome extravaganza in the city's downtown fifth district, where students are

taught by Western lecturers and have state-of-the-art computer facilities.

CEU's students are drawn from all over the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, usually on full scholarships that open up for them a world of academia and intellectual ideas. These are the region's leaders in waiting, who Mr Soros hopes will return home with Western ideas of a civil society.

Now Ms Milotay leads the life of an international scholar. "Of course there is a positive side as well to the changes. We have many more opportunities than before... If you are ready to fight for yourself you can do anything. I used to have an inferiority complex about being a Hungarian when I went to the West, but that has all gone now: I can participate as well as anyone else in Western society."

But what she and the other members of Hungarian intelligentsia want now is for Western society to take a leaf out of Hungary's values, and not merely force its ideas and values onto what is still a society in transition.

"We need the Westerners here, their help and their money to create jobs and boost the economy. But a good missionary wants to preach his values, but still respects and keeps the traditions of the place where he is."

ADAM LEBOR



See how little it costs to help secure your family's future.



In an ideal world you will always be there for your family. But should the worst happen would they be able to cope without you?



This valuable cover is easy to budget for as you only pay a premium for a fixed period of time and the amount you pay each month stays the same.



The sooner you apply, the sooner you could be sure that your family's future is secure.

For a quotation call the number below. Alternatively, contact your financial adviser.

Legal & General Family Protection Plan

Post to Legal & General, FREEPOST (SWC 0467), Cardiff CF1 1YW.

Please send me a personal quotation and information pack on Legal & General's Family Protection Plan.

Title (Mr/Mrs/Ms/Ms) _____

Surname _____

Forename(s) _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Date of birth _____

Tel No Home _____

Tel No Work _____

Ref C27-DH4

Legal & General

Family Protection Plan

Family Protection Plan</p

Business & City Editor, Jeremy Warner
News desk: 0171-293 2636 Fax: 0171-293 2098
E-mail: IndyBusiness@Independent.co.uk

BUSINESS

BRIEFING

Liffe decides on longer hours

THE London International Financial Futures and Options Exchange (Liffe) is to extend the hours of trading in its UK equity products to bring them more into line with underlying markets from 20 July.

The move will mean that trading in all of them will be extended by 10 to 30 minutes in the evening, but three products will start trading 15 to 30 minutes later in the morning. By extending the closing times, Liffe will have a longer overlap with the US stock market and its derivatives, which should reduce the exposure to market risk after the Liffe's close for users of the market.

Coca-Cola priced at top of range


SHARES in Coca-Cola Beverages, the European soft drink bottling operation which is listing on the London Stock Exchange, will be priced at the "upper end" of the £250 to £60 price range when they start trading on Monday, the company said yesterday. Almost 200 million shares in the company, representing approximately 20 per cent of the total, are being placed with institutional investors.

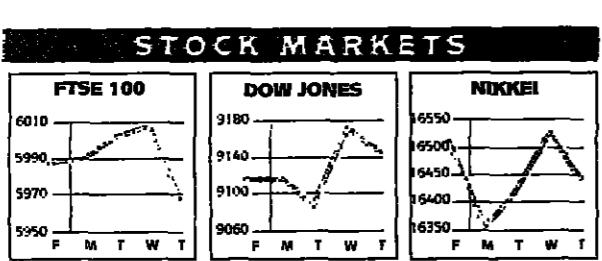
CCB is being demerged from Coca-Cola Amatil, the Australian bottling group. Coca-Cola Inc, its parent group in the United States, is retaining a 50.1 per cent stake in CCB.

Move to force ethical disclosure

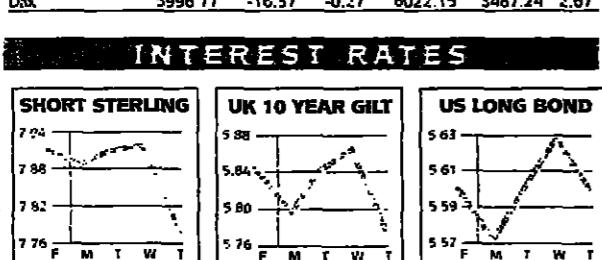
THE GOVERNMENT yesterday moved to champion the cause of ethical investment, with proposals to force pension funds to disclose their approach and policies on the issue.

John Denham, the pensions minister at the Department of Social Security, said: "Whether or not investors are aware of it, investment decision making has an ethical dimension."

Mr Denham added: "We are minded to require trustees to disclose to what extent, if any, they have taken account of ethical and social considerations in their investment strategy," he said.



Indices	Close	Change	Change (%)	52 wks low	52 wks high	52 wks Ave Yield (%)
FTSE 100	5969.70	-39.90	-0.65	5150.50	4382.80	3.84
FTSE 250	5633.30	11.30	0.20	5970.90	4384.20	3.45
FTSE 350	2878.10	-14.70	-0.51	2940.10	2141.90	3.77
FTSE All Share	2802.80	-13.60	-0.48	2872.04	2106.59	3.73
FTSE SmallCap	2586.80	-2.70	-0.10	2793.80	2182.10	3.15
FTSE Fledgling	1416.80	-0.30	-0.02	1517.10	1225.20	3.17
FTSE AIM	1090.20	1.10	0.10	1146.90	965.90	1.09
FTSE EBLOC 100	1086.36	-3.64	-0.33	1086.36	931.50	1.56
Dow Jones	9144.58	-36.12	-0.39	9261.91	6971.32	1.56
Nikkei	16446.35	-84.02	-0.51	20698.67	14468.21	0.93
Hang Seng	8433.78	-195.40	-2.26	16820.31	7351.68	4.85
Dax	5996.77	-16.37	-0.27	6022.15	3487.24	2.67



MONEY MARKET RATES	Index	3 month	7 day	1 year	10 year	Vr chg	Long bond	Vr chg
UK	7.88	0.61	8.06	0.50	5.77	-1.31	5.38	-1.60
US	5.68	-0.06	5.81	-0.22	5.40	-0.86	5.60	-0.97
Japan	0.62	-0.02	0.65	-0.16	1.66	-0.91	2.19	-0.85
Germany	3.55	0.43	3.53	0.56	4.68	-0.88	5.29	-1.10



OTHER INDICATORS	Close	Chg	Vr Ago	Index	Chg	Vr Ago	Net flgs
Brent Oil (\$)	11.77	0.15	18.27	GDP	1.14	8.0	3.00
Gold (\$)	351.10	-2.05	318.25	RPI	163.50	4.20	156.91
Silver (\$)	5.34	0.01	4.28	Barc Rates	7.50	6.50	+1.5%
www.bloomberg.com/uk				SOURCE: BLOOMBERG			

TOURIST RATES

Australia (\$)	2.5685	Mexican (nuevo peso)	13.26
Austria (schillings)	20.33	Netherlands (gulders)	3.2600
Belgium (francs)	59.78	New Zealand (\$)	3.0420
Canada (\$)	2.3486	Norway (kroner)	12.34
Cyprus (pounds)	0.8436	Portugal (escudos)	293.37
Denmark (krone)	11.09	Saudi Arabian (rials)	5.9554
Finland (markka)	8.8485	Singapore (\$)	2.7043
France (francs)	9.6893	Spain (pesetas)	240.66
Germany (marks)	2.9034	South Africa (rand)	8.1884
Greece (drachmas)	481.96	Sweden (krona)	12.58
Hong Kong (\$)	12.28	Switzerland (francs)	2.6722
Ireland (pounds)	1.1477	Thailand (bahts)	61.12
Indian (rupees)	63.90	Turkey (lira)	4.23564
Israel (shekels)	5.5432	USA (\$)	1.5964
Italy (lira)	2866		
Japan (yen)	224.72		
Malaysia (ringgers)	6.5039		
Malta (lira)	0.6278		
		SOURCE: Thomas Cook	

Bank's interest rate hold fails to end fears of a hike

HOW THE MPC MEMBERS CHANGED THEIR MINDS ON INTEREST RATES

Feb/Mar	De Anne Julius	Charles Goodhart	John Vickers	Mervyn King	Eddie George	David Clementi	Ian Plenderleith	Willem Buiter	Alan Budd
No change	Higher	Absent	Higher	No change	No change	No change	No change	Higher	Higher
No change	No change	Absent	Higher	No change	No change	No change	No change	Higher	Higher
Cut	No change	Absent	No change	No change	No change	No change	No change	Higher	No change
Cut	Higher	Higher	Higher	Higher	Higher	Higher	Higher	Higher	Higher
Cut	Higher	No change	Higher	No change	No change	No change	No change	Higher	Higher

BY LEA PATERSON

flation as one reason for the hike. Since the June decision, there have been few signs of a slowdown in pay growth.

Other economists, however, said the MPC may have been swayed by growing evidence of a slowdown in the services sector, and pointed out that manufacturing figures had been far worse than expected. The appreciation of sterling after the June rate hike is also thought to have been a factor.

Simon Briscoe, economist at Nikko Europe, said: "The picture is one of slowdown. What has concerned and confused the market is the Bank's reaction last month."

Sterling closed at DM2.92, virtually unchanged on the day, reflecting the market view that the MPC decision had little impact on the UK interest rate

outlook. Industry figures were relieved by the decision to keep rates unchanged, but remained concerned about the prospect of another rate rise in August.

Graham Mackenzie, director general of the Engineering Employers' Federation (EEF), said: "We would urge the MPC as soon as possible to signal that interest rates have peaked."

The announcement prompted another round of speculation about the identity of the "hawks" on the MPC who voted for a rate rise. The general consensus in the City was that Eddie George, the Governor of the Bank of England voted to keep rates on hold, along with Ian Plenderleith, David Clementi and John Vickers - all three of whom are Bank staff.

DeAnne Julius - the only MPC member who has stated that interest rates are too high - is widely believed to have stood her ground and voted for a cut. Professors Willem Buiter, Charles Goodhart and Alan Budd, all external MPC members, are thought likely to have voted for a rate hike.

City economists were most uncertain about Mervyn King. As a member of the Bank staff, he is likely to have felt some pressure to vote with the Governor, although he has broken ranks on previous occasions, and voted for an increase. Assuming the hawkish Mr King voted for a rate hike, this would mean the vote would be split four in favour of an increase, four in favour of no change and one in favour of a rate cut. Mr George would then have had to use his casting vote to keep rates on hold.

No one will know for certain how each MPC member voted until the minutes of yesterday's meeting are published in six weeks time. The minutes of June's meeting - when a majority of MPC members voted for an interest rate increase - will be published next Wednesday, but newspaper leaks have suggested the Committee voted seven to two for a rise.

The general sentiment in the City yesterday was that it was far from clear that the next move in UK interest rates would be down. Many thought the Bank would wait and look at another month's worth of data before coming to a decision. Others noted the Bank this month would be preparing the August Inflation Report - a detailed assessment of prospects for the UK economy - and so would be listening to detailed presentations about the impact of changes in the Government's fiscal stance and of the minimum wage on the inflation outlook.

The Government's decision to cap public expenditure at a real annual growth rate of 2.75 per cent is widely seen in the City as a loosening of fiscal policy. There has also been controversy over the move to exclude the Working Families Tax Credit (WFTC) from the public expenditure totals, which could allow the Government to increase spending by an extra £5bn a year, according to some estimates.

Separately, an inadvertent leak of data by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) suggested that bonuses added 0.6 per cent to the rate of growth of average earnings in May. The ONS mistakenly released the data to a news wire yesterday morning. However, economists said the numbers provided few clues about the actual level of earnings growth, due for official release on Wednesday.

Ken Hill, finance director, received a bonus of £79,000 on top of his annual salary of £101,000, taking his total pay to £198,000. Meanwhile South West's chief executive, Robert Baty, and the head of its waste and construction businesses, Colin Drummond, each received bonuses of £26,000 on annual salaries of £33,000.

News of the bonuses emerged as the annual report of the Ofwat National Customer Council showed that South West Water received the highest rate of complaints of any water company in 1997-98. South West received 8.9 complaints for every 10,000 homes against a national average of 4.1.

Gordon Brown, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, has recently warned that the Government may clamp down on excessive pay awards in the water industry.

A spokesman for South West Water said that the bonuses awarded to executives covered two years and that in the case of Mr Hill, part of his bonus was linked to the sale of the company's 25-per-cent stake in West Country Television.

Corporate members of Lloyd's are increasingly seeking to buy names share of the market.

Co insurance yesterday offered names 25p in cash or for every £1 of business they underwrote. The £40m deal will give Cox & 4 per cent share of the market.

But names are resisting the trend. Michael Wade, founder of CLM Insurance, the first corporate member of Lloyd's, was yesterday accused of a "slight touch of Stalinism" after he said it was "unsafe" to allow names to continue to the basis of unlimited liability.

News of the bonuses emerged as the annual report of the Ofwat National Customer Council showed that South West Water received the highest rate of complaints of any water company in 1997-98. South West received 8.9 complaints for every 10,000 homes against a national average of 4.1.

Gordon Brown, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, has recently warned that the Government may clamp down on excessive pay awards in the water industry.

A spokesman for South West Water said that the bonuses awarded to executives covered two years and that in the case of Mr Hill, part of his bonus was linked to the sale of the company's 25-per-cent stake in West Country Television.

Inflation is still the bigger danger

UP UNTIL now, it has been easy for the Government to blame the problem of rising interest rates and the strong pound on the previous lot and the mini boom they belatedly manufactured in the run up to the last election. While there is still some truth in this, the excuse is beginning to wear just a little thin.

We are now more than a year into Britain's "new dawn" and Francis Maude, the shadow chancellor, has a point when he insists that the Government should begin to bear some responsibility for what is happening in the economy.

But, first, yesterday's decision by the Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee to leave interest rates unchanged. As the markets correctly surmised, this is a not a decision at all really, but one deferred. The MPC has chickened out of erring on the side of caution, which dictates a rise in interest rates to be certain of meeting the Government's inflation target, and instead has caved into public opinion, whose siren warnings of recession may be heartfelt but are also almost certainly misguided.

A monetary policy run by the opinion polls may be what you expect from politicians, but it was to



OUTLOOK

avoid this, and finally to banish that great bane of the British economy - repeated periods of high inflation

- that the Bank of England was given its independence. To be fair, the judgement is obviously a fine one at the moment. The runaway service sector is beginning to slow and profit related pay, an important element of the growth in earnings, is being phased out.

At the same time, however, Government policy is beginning to work in the other direction. The minimum wage is bound to be inflationary, and as several members of the MPC have already warned, the Government's spending plans will add to the pressure on prices

too. It may be that like Kenneth Clarke, the former Chancellor, the MPC will end up being lucky and that the economy is now cooling at a rate which justifies unchanged interest rates. But it's taking quite a risk by adopting this stance. And given the UK's past propensity to periods of high inflation, it is not appropriate to do so. Moreover, it will be the worst of all possible worlds if interest rates have to go up next month, or the month after.

Arguably, we wouldn't be in this fix if the MPC had done more at an earlier stage to choke off price pressures.

Returning to who's responsible, obviously present inflationary pressures are down to the last Government. But Mr Maude is probably right to claim that interest rates are going to have to be higher for longer than otherwise because of the Government's spending and minimum wage plans. Many thought the 2.5 per cent a year for real growth the next three years in public spending announced by the Chancellor last month already too high. Factoring in extra capital spending, that figure rises to 2.75 per cent. Factoring in the Working Families Tax Credit, which the

Government is accounting for against tax rather than spending, and the figure rises to more than 3 per cent. That's considerably more than any likely growth in the economy, even assuming we aren't heading for a recession.

All that said, it is important to get the situation in perspective. Things aren't going dramatically wrong in the economy yet. Inflation is higher than it should be. Interest rates and the pound are also too high for some. The Government is planning to spend more than it should and the economy is slowing markedly. On the other hand, there's highly unlikely to be a recession and the public finances are in good shape compared to many of our Continental counterparts. But the warning signs are flashing amber all over the place, and the Chancellor is not looking as unshakable as he was.

Somerfield on a roll at last

YOU CAN'T blame David Simons, Somerfield's chief executive, for grinning like a Cheshire cat yesterday. It was an "I told you so," and now you're gonna believe us," kind

of look. It is not yet two years since Somerfield staggered the stock market looking like an accident waiting to happen. Mr Simons had to endure a good deal of criticism.

Almost given away on a single figure multiple and a yield of nearly 10 per cent, many UK investors remained wary of this former Gateway business. They believed that though the shares were cheap they were cheap for a reason, because Somerfield was a weak player in a fiercely competitive market dominated by some of the most efficient and innovative companies in Britain.

American value funds thought differently and gradually accumulated 40 per cent of the stock. They are now looking very clever indeed. Somerfield's total return to shareholders has been over 150 per cent since flotation and the shares have more than doubled in the last six months.

In the end, however, this is less

a retail success story than a tale of successful value investing. What has transformed Somerfield's valuation is the merger with Kwik Save. Credit then to those investment bankers at SBC Warburg who together with Dairy Farm and PDMF, Kwik Save's biggest shareholders, took the merger idea to Mr

Simons. By all accounts he was sceptical at first, but if he was he must be jolly glad he came round.

Given Kwik Save's recent disasters, his scepticism was understandable. Indeed there has been no retail wizardry in the way this deal has worked for shareholders. Its success is not about industry-beating sales growth or new initiatives in home delivery and stores or petrol forecourts. It is about synergies, cost-cutting and buying power. Mr Simons has proved himself a good nuts and bolts manager who

knows how to make assets sweat.

Now he has to prove he's a good retailer. This is a company with 1,400 stores, serving 15 million customers and generating £5bn of sales. That's a solid enough foundation for anyone. The stock market's ugly duckling is not about to turn into a swan but it's plainly going to turn out rather better than a duck.

Tourist taxes and water rates

ONE OF the advantages of living in Cornwall is that it is not London or Birmingham. But alas, it is not all majestic scenery and Californian sun-

mers. Along with the coastline, of which there is an awful lot, there also comes a monster-sized bill for clearing up the West Country's beaches.

As things stand this is met out of the water rates, which helps explain why South West Water's customers have by far the biggest bills in the country. So now along comes the Ofwat National Customer Council with a wizard idea for sharing some of the pain. Why not impose a "tourist tax" so that those who use the wonderful beaches, also contribute to their clean up? The tax would not be levied on carloads of overheating holidaymakers as they cross the county border. Instead it would be paid by local businesses. But since they would pass it on in the shape of higher prices faster than you can say one clotted cream tea please, it amounts to much the same thing.

Luckily the idea is a non-starter. There is the practical problem of selecting only those businesses which serve the tourist as opposed to local trade. There is also an important principle here, which is that customer bills should reflect the cost of providing goods and services. The Cornish will just have to continue paying for their spectacular views.

IN BRIEF

Centrica wins power customers

MORE THAN 250,000 households have signed contracts with British Gas for a domestic electricity supply two months ahead of the introduction of electricity competition. Centrica said yesterday. A further 1.5 million have registered to receive details of its electricity offer, which is on average 12 per cent cheaper than current prices, it said.

Centrica's chief executive, Roy Gardner, said the take-up demonstrated the level of interest in the soon-to-be-deregulated market. "This is further evidence of the need for early legislation to establish a proper basis for competition and to ensure customers see the full benefits," he said.

Bundesbank post

THE German government has nominated Hermann Reinsperger, chief economist at BHF Bank in Frankfurt, to succeed Otmar Issing as chief economist of the Bundesbank after Mr Issing's elevation to the European Central Bank. Mr Reinsperger has been endorsed by the Bundesbank President, Hans Tietmeyer, and his appointment should soon be confirmed by the German President, Roman Herzog.

Jürgen Stark, finance state secretary, will succeed Bundesbank vice-president Johann-Wilhelm Gädium, who has stepped down after reaching retirement age. One seat is still left open on the Bundesbank's policy making board.

ECB's euro policy

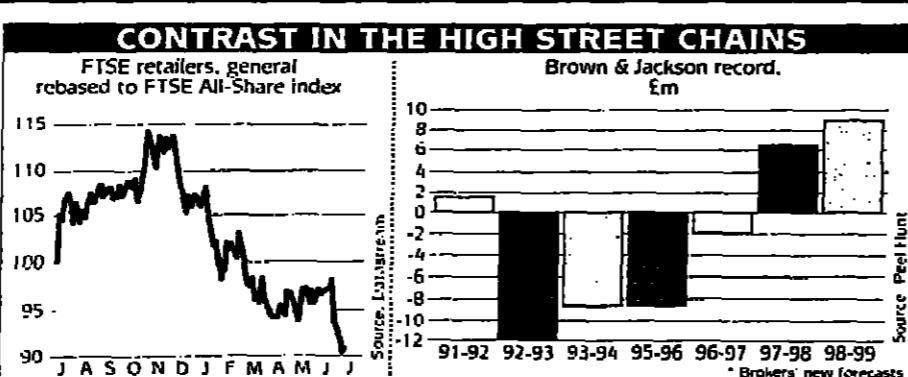
THE EUROPEAN Central Bank executive board member, Eugenio Domingo Solans, said a mixture of monetary and inflation targeting would be the most suitable tool for monetary policy in the euro zone. "A strategy which combines both direct inflation targeting and intermediate monetary targeting appears to be the best option, at least at the start of the third phase of monetary union," Mr Solans said. "The stability of demand for money in the euro zone economy is the key element when considering the extent to which one or other strategy is applied," he added.

The ECB has not yet decided what indicators to use to safeguard price stability in the euro zone. Yesterday the ECB decided to adopt the principle of minimum reserves as a monetary policy tool.

Options windfall

THE FINANCE director of S Daniels, Nicholas Beart, has made £56,550 through the exercise of share options in the group, the company said yesterday.

Mr Beart exercised options to buy 150,000 ordinary shares in the company at 3.3p each under the group's ESOP option rollover agreements, entered into at the time of the company's acquisition of The New Covent Garden Soap Company. He later sold these shares at 41p each.



Profits warnings from a string of major multiples paint a picture of a high street struggling under the weight of rising interest rates, poor summer weather and sporting diversions such as the World Cup. While people are spending on costly items such as restaurants and exotic holidays, low-ticket outlets such as Poundstretcher and What Everyone Wants are also winning the battle: they have lifted the investor gloom with predictions of significantly improved sales and earnings as they prove more resilient to economic uncertainties

Andrew Buurman

BROWN & JACKSON

the discount retailer best known for its Poundstretcher and What Everyone Wants shops, offered some relief to the struggling high street shop yesterday.

Instead of warning of setbacks in sales or profits, as Dixons, Tie Rack, Allied Carpets and DFS Furniture have all done recently, it said it expects its earnings for the year to June "significantly to exceed current market expectations". It will reveal just how significantly on 21 August.

Brown & Jackson shares rose 10.5p to a new high of 65p as brokers raised their profit forecasts from 24.9m to 26.5m for 1997/98 and from 27.2m to 29m for 1998/99, compared with a loss in the last period of 1.9m.

The chief executive, Johan Visser, explained that the company's second-half trading had been "considerably better" than the board expected at the time of the half-year figures, due to restructuring of prices, its product mix, its distribution centres and cuts in central costs.

Mr Visser said the company had bought 19 shops in the Midlands from Musefield, a non-food discount retailer, and will change them into Poundstretcher and What Everyone Wants outlets, bringing the group's total number of outlets to 45.

Brown & Jackson's statement sounds like a throwback to happier days in the high street, and is exactly the kind of tonic the City and investors need to remind them that consumers have not disappeared off the face of the earth entirely and that the retail trade has not been obliterated by this summer's deluge of interest rate rises, poor weather and World Cup television.

But analysts also recognise that the company is a bit exceptional: it has been struggling in the red for most of the past 10 years and is being revived by a relatively new South African management team.

Mr Visser points out that most of the improvement in profits has come from en-

hanced profit margins: sales

are not particularly buoyant. "It's all moving in the right direction, but like others in the retail trade we would like to see the sun shining," he said.

Brown & Jackson is also trading in the right sort of cut-price goods at the moment. Its prices start at 21p for confectionery and 49p for children's underwear and extend no higher than £19.99 for clothing and hardware items.

Consumer spending has started to come under pressure this year from high interest rates, a slowing economy and the absence of last year's building society windfall payments.

But the axe has not fallen

equally on all types of spending

or goods. People are still spending widely on cars, restaurants, financial ventures and exotic long-haul holidays, with trips to China, India, Australia and Thailand taking over a lot of business from their traditional holiday destinations of Spain, France, Italy and Greece.

Sales of cars, catering and other services have far outpaced the 4.5 per cent rise in consumer spending in recent months, while the trade gap in travel has widened by 50 per cent in the past two years.

While all that is welcome, something has had to give in the current climate, and that something is the high street and "big ticket" items such as computers, furniture, carpets, clothing and footwear. Several companies in these sectors have been responsible for the profit warnings in recent months.

There are no similar signs of weakness in "small ticket" sales such as food and household products from the supermarkets and out-of-town superstores, which are also competing more with the high streets on clothing, toiletries, banking, insurance, petrol, plants, newspapers and hardware.

Hopefully, investors have switched into supermarket shares, or Brown & Jackson, or utilities or drugs, which are buffered against falls in consumer spending, recession, weather patterns and sporting distractions.

On Sunday the World Cup ends. The weather might improve and high street stores might be curbing their sales. But don't count on it until it happens.

Everyone wants fit into the same picture. Healthy supermarket sales and "small ticket" traders make a sharp contrast with the more traditional retailers like Liberty, Alders, Mappin & Webb and Robert Dyas, which are promoting "50 per cent off" or "Half Price" sales this month.

They also show a sharp contrast to the likes of Dixons, which warns that sales are down 10 per cent this year, and profits warnings from furniture, carpet and tie retailers.

Now the City is waiting anxiously for up-to-date trading statements from the high street giants such as Marks & Spencer, GUS, Debenhams and Next. Investors fear that most will report setbacks in their half-year profit figures.

Some certainly will. Last week's CBI distributive trades survey for June showed retail sales well below retailers' expectations. It suggested that the slowdown was chiefly weather-related and also reflected last month's interest-rate rise, general economic uncertainty and the World Cup diversion.

Investors have joined with consumers in deserting the high street over the past six months as expectations of earnings growth for general retailers have collapsed from well over 10 per cent to just 2 per cent, with the risk that even that will turn out to be too high.

The stock of major high street traders has already fallen 15 per cent against the market this year, and a handful of the worst performers such as DFS Furniture, MPI, Allied Carpets, Tie Rack and John David Sports, have plunged over 50 per cent against the FTSE All Share.

Hopefully, investors have switched into supermarket shares, or Brown & Jackson, or utilities or drugs, which are buffered against falls in consumer spending, recession, weather patterns and sporting distractions.

On Sunday the World Cup ends. The weather might improve and high street stores might be curbing their sales. But don't count on it until it happens.

Deutsche Bank in the hunt for a US securities firm

EUROPE'S SECOND-largest bank, Deutsche Bank, yesterday said it is considering buying a US securities firm - a week after a team of its top investment bankers in the US quit to join a rival.

Michael Philipp, head of equities worldwide, told employees at the company's US trading and underwriting subsidiary, Deutsche Bank

Securities, that it has a "gaping hole" in its investment banking business. He was referring to the surprise departure of Frank Quattrone, the banker responsible for technology companies - and much of his Silicon Valley-based staff - to Credit Suisse First Boston (CSFB).

"The franchise has to be replaced," and the firm could have a plan ready by 17 July, Mr

Philipp said. "If we don't do anything, we're sitting here dead in the water."

The statement revives speculation that Deutsche Bank is set to make an acquisition, as it reorganises its global investment banking business after disappointing profits in the last few years.

Several senior executives have left the company, including

investment banking heads Maurice Thompson and Carter McClelland, who wooed Quattrone's group from Morgan Stanley & Co in 1996.

Deutsche Bank's strategy needs to be in place by the end of the year though an acquisition isn't the only option, Philipp said, adding that it has already talked to lawyers and had internal strategists crunch

numbers. He did not mention possible purchase targets.

Mr Philipp said the firm is committed to the US investment banking business contrary to analysts' assertions. The firm would also look at establishing a larger base beyond technology banking in the event of an acquisition.

One potential candidate to replace Quattrone's group is

Hambrecht & Quist Group, the largest independent investment bank specialising in technology and based in San Francisco. Its shares rose 5.7 per cent in the past week on speculation it would be bought.

Larger candidates could include PaineWebber or even Lehman Brothers, both of whose parent companies' shares soared this year amid record profits on Wall Street and merger speculation.

"Deutsche Bank must buy an investment bank in the US if it wants to be one of the top players worldwide," said Dieter Hein, a banking analyst at Commerzbank AG. "They've already tried internal growth and it didn't work."

Bloomberg

Hallmark pays £188m for card firm

BY FRANCESCO GUERRERA

KEITH CHAPMAN, the chairman of Creative Publishing, is set to receive £15m from the sale of his stake in the greeting card company following yesterday's £188m takeover offer by Hallmark Cards of the US.

The deal, which will create the UK's largest card company, will put an end to Creative Publishing's brief spell as an independent quoted company, just nine months after it was spun off from mail order group Fine Art Developments.

Mr Chapman yesterday agreed to sell his 5 per cent holding in the Bradford-based company to privately-owned Hallmark at the offer price of 235p per share, a 37.5 per cent

year bought a small UK card producer could launch a counter-bid to force its rival to pay more for the company, he said.

Shares in Creative Publishing, which specialises in manufacturing cards for retailers such as Marks & Spencer and Sainsbury's, yesterday rose 57.5p to 227p, boosted by the news of the Hallmark offer and the prospect of a counter-bid.

If the Hallmark bid is completed, the combined group will have a 30 per cent share of the £1bn-a-year UK card market, with 3,000 staff and three manufacturing plants.

Both companies said that a monopoly inquiry was unlikely as the card market in the UK is very fragmented and the deal would not reduce price competition in the industry.

Keith Alm, the chairman of Hallmark's UK subsidiary, yesterday said there would be no job losses as the two businesses were complementary. "This is not a 'slash and burn' takeover, the object of the deal is to grow," he said.

Mr Alm who is to head the combined group, said the deal would combine Hallmark's traditional strength in branded cards, including the Forever Friends and Peanuts series, with Creative Publishing's expertise in own-brand cards.

Mr Chapman said the takeover was "a good deal for Creative Publishers' shareholders and employees."

The chairman and his fellow directors said they would sell to Hallmark even in the event of a higher bid, amid market speculation that Hallmark's arch-rival, American Greetings, might top the offer.

One market insider said that he "knew for a fact" that American Greetings had "had a look at Creative Publishing". American Greetings, which earlier this

year bought a small UK card producer could launch a counter-bid to force its rival to pay more for the company, he said.

Shares in Creative Publishing, which specialises in manufacturing cards for retailers such as Marks & Spencer and Sainsbury's, yesterday rose 57.5p to 227p, boosted by the news of the Hallmark offer and the prospect of a counter-bid.

If the Hallmark bid is completed, the combined group will have a 30 per cent share of the £1bn-a-year UK card market, with 3,000 staff and three manufacturing plants.

Both companies said that a monopoly inquiry was unlikely as the card market in the UK is very fragmented and the deal would not reduce price competition in the industry.

Keith Alm, the chairman of Hallmark's UK subsidiary, yesterday said there would be no job losses as the two businesses were complementary. "This is not a 'slash and burn' takeover, the object of the deal is to grow," he said.

Mr Alm who is to head the combined group, said the deal would combine Hallmark's traditional strength in branded cards, including the Forever Friends and Peanuts series, with Creative Publishing's expertise in own-brand cards.

Mr Chapman said the takeover was "a good deal for Creative Publishers' shareholders and employees."

The chairman and his fellow directors said they would sell to Hallmark even in the event of a higher bid, amid market speculation that Hallmark's arch-rival, American Greetings, might top the offer.

One market insider said that he "knew for a fact" that American Greetings had "had a look at Creative Publishing". American Greetings, which earlier this

year bought a small UK card producer could launch a counter-bid to force its rival to pay more for the company, he said.

Shares in Creative Publishing, which specialises in manufacturing cards for retailers such as Marks & Spencer and Sainsbury's, yesterday rose 57.5p to 227p, boosted by the news of the Hallmark offer and the prospect of a counter-bid.

If the Hallmark bid is completed, the combined group will have a 30 per cent share of the £1bn-a-year UK card market, with 3,000 staff and three manufacturing plants.

Opening shot in trust battle

BY ANDREW VERITY

A BATTLE for control of the £595m Scottish National Trust broke out yesterday as Aberdeen Asset Managers put in a hostile bid to wrest the company from Gartmore, its current investment managers.

Aberdeen weighed in to offer shares in the high-performing Aberdeen Preferred Income Trust in exchange for shares in SNT, a split-capital investment trust due to wind up in September.

In a move which infuriated Gartmore, Aberdeen said it was making the offer to SNT shareholders as "an alternative to wind-up", allowing shareholders to continue investing and defer any capital gains tax.

The hostile bid is being engineered by the broker Brewin Dolphin Bell Lawrie, which has a reputation for attacking the credibility of Gartmore as the trust's investment managers.

Derek Morgan, chairman of Aberdeen Preferred, said: "I believe this offer provides Scottish National shareholders with the opportunity to exchange their holdings for Aberdeen Pre-

fered shares on what will be an appealing and tax-efficient basis." Aberdeen Preferred is financing the deal with a placing and increase in bank facilities which has nearly doubled its assets from £140m to £260m.

Gartmore yesterday reacted furiously to the hostile bid, which disrupts its own plans to offer shareholders an alternative to wind-up. Gartmore was on the verge of announcing plans for a new trust into which investors could roll over.

Gartmore also claimed that shareholders who accepted the bid would be left in a company with 100 per cent gearing, compared to 30 per cent.

Sandy Struthers, chairman of the trust, said: "The Aberdeen Preferred offer exposes shareholders to a completely different underlying investment risk, whereas the board's rollover proposals are expected to replicate SNT's successful investment strategy."

Last year Brewin Dolphin claimed plans to roll over some of SNT's investors into a Second Scottish National Trust would be "the most spectacular misfire the sector has seen".

Brent drive to raise cash

BY CLIFFORD GERMAN

BRENT INTERNATIONAL yesterday put two of the company's three divisions up for sale with a £65m price tag to raise the cash to expand and develop the remaining division into a specialised company with a greatly increased return on capital.

Inks, coatings and adhesives, which made £4.4m before interest and tax, or about a third of the group's profit last year, is for sale with a price tag of up to £50m. The Imaging Development division, which makes wrappings for Walker's crisps and Nestle and Mars bars contributed £2.2m to profits but is suffering from competition and the strength of sterling.

Gartmore is also claimed that shareholders who accepted the bid would be left in a company with 100 per cent gearing, compared to 30 per cent.

Sandy Struthers, chairman of the trust, said: "The Aberdeen Preferred offer exposes shareholders to a completely different underlying investment risk, whereas the board's rollover proposals are expected to replicate SNT's successful investment strategy."

Last year Brewin Dolphin claimed plans to roll over some of SNT's investors into a Second Scottish National Trust would be "the most spectacular misfire the sector has seen".

It's Time for people who take the time to understand your needs.

It's Time for clear explanations in plain English - not jargon.

It's Time for computers that grow with you and can be updated.

It's Time to cut out the middleman and cut the cost of computers.

It's Time to visit us.

Wall St braced for SEC fines

BY ANDREW MARSHALL
in Washington

colluding on prices. Their investigation led to the collection of thousands of hours of taped conversations between brokers which revealed extensive price-fixing.

In one tape, a trader asked another to increase his bid by a quarter of a point over the selling price, and his counterpart agreed. He then acknowledged that he was "goosing, cuz." The first trader thanked him.

The effect of the alleged price-fixing would have been to boost profits and income for the traders at the expense of investors.

In a settlement last year, the

securities firms agreed to pay more than \$10m in a class action suit filed by angry investors.

The SEC had already indicated that it was preparing civil cases against individual traders, but the latest report suggests that it will also hit the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The firms reached a preliminary agreement with the SEC in 1996, which required them to increase supervision.

But the new package of measures would go much further, involving civil charges. The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The firms reached a preliminary agreement with the SEC in 1996, which required them to increase supervision.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately damage their careers.

The SEC is reported to have briefed Wall Street lawyers about the case and its implications for their clients. A deal between the firms and the SEC may cover the size of the fines and the punishment of the traders. Naming them and suspending them for 30 to 90 days would disproportionately

MAIN MOVERS											
RISES					FALLS						
High Low Stock	Price	Cap	Tid	P/E	Code	High Low Stock	Price	Cap	Tid	P/E	Code
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -0.62%						ENGINEERING VEHICLES -0.27%					
554 422 Allied Breweries	551 +0.8	43 143 1888	160	10	27	222 Beers Northern	180 +0.8	54 54 365	157	157	157
495 395 British (P) Ltd	395 +0.8	54 44 118	118	20	20	20 Gardner Gp	20 +0.8	111 111 1050	1050	1050	1050
545 338 CastleStar (L)	338 +0.8	54 44 105	105	20	20	2000 Gazeys	105 +0.8	41 41 105	105	105	105
772 545 Glaxo	545 +0.8	24 24 222	22	10	10	204 Gazeys	22 +0.8	15 15 365	365	365	365
100 595 Glaxo Wellcome	595 +0.8	24 24 222	22	10	10	204 Glaxo Wellcome	22 +0.8	15 15 365	365	365	365
265 157 Hushpapa (C)	265 +0.8	80 71 118	118	20	20	204 Hushpapa (C)	118 +0.8	60 60 112	112	112	112
BANKS -0.000%						EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES -0.22%					
1388 715 Abbey Nat	715 +0.8	27 160 2121	2121	20	20	204 Inspec Group	2121 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
940 477 ABN	477 +0.8	32 164 2223	2223	20	20	204 Inspec Group	2223 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
1007 338 Alliance Lntc	338 +0.8	42 164 2223	2223	20	20	204 Inspec Group	2223 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
1095 224 Barclays	224 +0.8	28 164 1804	1804	20	20	204 Inspec Group	1804 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
100 595 Barclays	595 +0.8	30 164 1804	1804	20	20	204 Inspec Group	1804 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
265 157 Halifax (C)	265 +0.8	80 71 118	118	20	20	204 Inspec Group	118 +0.8	60 60 112	112	112	112
BANKS -0.000%						INDUSTRIALS -0.22%					
1388 715 Abbey Nat	715 +0.8	27 160 2121	2121	20	20	204 Interflite	2121 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
940 477 ABN	477 +0.8	32 164 2223	2223	20	20	204 Interflite	2223 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
1007 338 Alliance Lntc	338 +0.8	42 164 2223	2223	20	20	204 Interflite	2223 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
1095 224 Barclays	224 +0.8	28 164 1804	1804	20	20	204 Interflite	1804 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
100 595 Barclays	595 +0.8	30 164 1804	1804	20	20	204 Interflite	1804 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
265 157 Halifax (C)	265 +0.8	80 71 118	118	20	20	204 Interflite	118 +0.8	60 60 112	112	112	112
BANKS -0.000%						INDUSTRIALS -0.22%					
1388 715 Abbey Nat	715 +0.8	27 160 2121	2121	20	20	204 Interflite	2121 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
940 477 ABN	477 +0.8	32 164 2223	2223	20	20	204 Interflite	2223 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
1007 338 Alliance Lntc	338 +0.8	42 164 2223	2223	20	20	204 Interflite	2223 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
1095 224 Barclays	224 +0.8	28 164 1804	1804	20	20	204 Interflite	1804 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
100 595 Barclays	595 +0.8	30 164 1804	1804	20	20	204 Interflite	1804 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
265 157 Halifax (C)	265 +0.8	80 71 118	118	20	20	204 Interflite	118 +0.8	60 60 112	112	112	112
BANKS -0.000%						INDUSTRIALS -0.22%					
1388 715 Abbey Nat	715 +0.8	27 160 2121	2121	20	20	204 Interflite	2121 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
940 477 ABN	477 +0.8	32 164 2223	2223	20	20	204 Interflite	2223 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
1007 338 Alliance Lntc	338 +0.8	42 164 2223	2223	20	20	204 Interflite	2223 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
1095 224 Barclays	224 +0.8	28 164 1804	1804	20	20	204 Interflite	1804 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
100 595 Barclays	595 +0.8	30 164 1804	1804	20	20	204 Interflite	1804 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
265 157 Halifax (C)	265 +0.8	80 71 118	118	20	20	204 Interflite	118 +0.8	60 60 112	112	112	112
BANKS -0.000%						INDUSTRIALS -0.22%					
1388 715 Abbey Nat	715 +0.8	27 160 2121	2121	20	20	204 Interflite	2121 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
940 477 ABN	477 +0.8	32 164 2223	2223	20	20	204 Interflite	2223 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
1007 338 Alliance Lntc	338 +0.8	42 164 2223	2223	20	20	204 Interflite	2223 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
1095 224 Barclays	224 +0.8	28 164 1804	1804	20	20	204 Interflite	1804 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
100 595 Barclays	595 +0.8	30 164 1804	1804	20	20	204 Interflite	1804 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
265 157 Halifax (C)	265 +0.8	80 71 118	118	20	20	204 Interflite	118 +0.8	60 60 112	112	112	112
BANKS -0.000%						INDUSTRIALS -0.22%					
1388 715 Abbey Nat	715 +0.8	27 160 2121	2121	20	20	204 Interflite	2121 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
940 477 ABN	477 +0.8	32 164 2223	2223	20	20	204 Interflite	2223 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
1007 338 Alliance Lntc	338 +0.8	42 164 2223	2223	20	20	204 Interflite	2223 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
1095 224 Barclays	224 +0.8	28 164 1804	1804	20	20	204 Interflite	1804 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
100 595 Barclays	595 +0.8	30 164 1804	1804	20	20	204 Interflite	1804 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
265 157 Halifax (C)	265 +0.8	80 71 118	118	20	20	204 Interflite	118 +0.8	60 60 112	112	112	112
BANKS -0.000%						INDUSTRIALS -0.22%					
1388 715 Abbey Nat	715 +0.8	27 160 2121	2121	20	20	204 Interflite	2121 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
940 477 ABN	477 +0.8	32 164 2223	2223	20	20	204 Interflite	2223 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
1007 338 Alliance Lntc	338 +0.8	42 164 2223	2223	20	20	204 Interflite	2223 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
1095 224 Barclays	224 +0.8	28 164 1804	1804	20	20	204 Interflite	1804 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
100 595 Barclays	595 +0.8	30 164 1804	1804	20	20	204 Interflite	1804 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105
265 157 Halifax (C)	265 +0.8	80 71 118	118	20	20	204 Interflite	118 +0.8	60 60 112	112	112	112
BANKS -0.000%						INDUSTRIALS -0.22%					
1388 715 Abbey Nat	715 +0.8	27 160 2121	2121	20	20	204 Interflite	2121 +0.8	13 13 105	105	105	105

Telecoms reverse drags down Footsie

LINES WERE breaking up as the great telecoms scramble came to an embarrassing halt. As Henderson Crosthwaite suggested, the mobile phone boom was due for a "reality check" and most of the mobile groups lost their exuberance.

Orange plunged 36.5p to 670p, a two-day fall of 68p. Although the main Henderson target, it also was hit by stories of a big share placing. Hutchison Whampoa, the Hong Kong group, has almost 50 per cent of the downturn in the former colony, feel the temptation to unload at least some of its stake.

Goldman Sachs, according to the rumour mill, has been called in to organise the sale. If it has, it is keeping a low profile.

Orange shares have soared from 205p in the past year, as telecoms have become the darlings of the stock market. It would be surprising if Hutchison was not at least considering cutting its stake.

After all, in March British Aerospace, like Hutchison a founding shareholder, was happy to cut its stake from more than 21 per cent to just 5 per cent. And Orange

MARKET REPORT



DEREK PAIN

shares were then below 500p.

Chris Godsmark at Henderson points out that the mobile phones price war is intensifying and margins are under pressure. "Subscriber acquisition costs remain too high and are unsustainable," he says. He also frets about more regulatory interference.

BT, down 1.5p to 803.5p, and Cable & Wireless Communications, off 12.5p at 636p, remain the Godsmark favourites. Vodafone, 38p lower at 778p, looks fully valued, and on Orange he says: "We find it

increasingly difficult to come to terms with Orange's valuation."

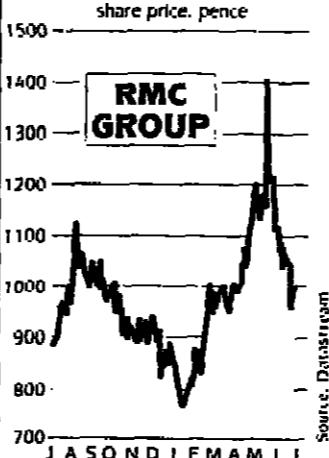
But Simon Champion at Charhouse Tilney was more positive: he rated both Orange and Vodafone as buys.

The rest of the stock market was unable to retain its winning streak. The decision to leave interest rates unchanged caught it in two minds: first relief, and then the nagging suspicion that any increase had only been postponed and would hit next time round. At one time Footsie was up by 34.2 points; it closed off 39.9 at 5,969.7 after suffering a 61.5-point fall in mid-afternoon.

The mid cap index achieved an 11.3 gain to 5,633.3 but once again the small caps index was in the dumps with a 2.7 decline to 2,586.8.

Still, Merrill Lynch's gamble on the housebuilders with its Wednesday buy advice paid off. Barratt Developments put on another 10p to 264.5p and Bellway 7.5p to 312.5p. Great Universal Stores was the latest retailer to be hit by a profit downgrade. Dresdner Kleinwort Benson took an axe - well, a penknife at least - to its estimates, cutting from 1,580p to 1,555p.

SHARE SPOTLIGHT



Source: Bloomberg

J A S O N D J F M A M J J

ever prepared to wait, falling 18.5p to 530p. Asda firmed 1.5p to 205.25p and Somerfield put on 33p to 426p, a peak. Tesco, ruffled by Deutsche Morgan Grenfell caution, shaded in its new slimline form to 193p and Safeway lost 12.5p to 282.5p.

Burmah Castrol fell 20p to 1,125p. The group is expected to move out of the oil sector soon to become a constituent of the Footsie chemical segment.

MRC, after Wednesday's market trade, was the top Footsie performer as the nonsense of a spaghetti-fingered input was ironed out. The shares recovered 40p to 1,000p.

Barclays stood out among the banks. That old excuse of a badly handled buy order was put forward. The shares, probably due more to hopes about next month's interim figures, rose 53p to 1,788p.

Debenhams, the department store chain, continued to pull out of its long downward spin. With Merrill Lynch and Morgan Stanley offering support, the shares rose 20.5p to 330p; they were 301.5p recently. MS said the market had underestimated the group's quality.

A bid for greeting cards group Creative Publishing lifted the shares 57.5p to 227p. The bid, from the American Hallmark operation, takes out CP just nine months after it was split from Fine Art Developments.

Insurex Willis Corroon put on 12p to 177p as takeover stories went the rounds again, and talk of a link-up buoyed ED & F Man, the commodity group, up 24.5p to 368p.

Airflow Streamline, the engineer, weakened 22.5p to 162.5p after warning it may not meet market profit expectations of 23.8m; BICC fell 15.5p to 124p following the loss of a three-year supply agreement. Hotelier Millennium & Copthorne softened 10p to 503.5p with talk of a cash-raising for acquisitions.

Brown & Jackson, the Poundstretcher chain, hardened 10p to 64.5p following £2m acquisition and a warning the market was underestimating its results with a £4.5m forecast. Era, another reborn retailer, rose 0.75p to 2.25p.

SEAG VOLUME: 931.4 million
SEAG TRADES: 65,937
GILTS: n/a

BENSONS CRISPS was unchanged at 38.5p after a 32 per cent interim profits advance to £211,000. Around £3m, up from £2.6m, is likely for the 12 months.

Knox D'Arcy, an investment and management group which has a 17 per cent stake, has not proceeded with an indicated 40p per share bid made earlier this year. It was instrumental in rescuing Bensons three years ago at 16p.

TOUCHSTONE, the accountancy software group placed at 165p on Wednesday, enjoyed another heady run, gaining 16p to 144.5p.

SPARCO CONSULTING, the computer group being taken over by US operation, jumped 40p to 335p. The bid is in Nasdaq-traded shares of the bidder.

Indicated bid price was 32.4p with BT Alex.Brown offering a switch into cash based on the bidder's shares.

Coca-Cola group to fizz up the market

COCA-COLA BEVERAGES looks guaranteed a good reception when shares in the bottling group start trading on Monday. Quite apart from the attractions of riding on the coat tails of the world-famous soft drink, the shares will also go straight into the FTSE 250 index, prompting a rush of demand from fund managers. But only a fifth of the shares in the group, which is being spun off from the Australian bottling outfit, Coca-Cola Amatil, are being placed. So expect them to rise above the 125p-160p range in which they are being priced.

Does CCB deserve that valuation?

The company is effectively a play on consumers in Central and Eastern Europe drinking more of the black sticky stuff as their economic welfare improves. Consumption varies wildly across CCB's region. While the average Austrian drinks almost 200 cans of the stuff a year, the Ukrainians only manage a pathetic 18.

CCB expects to change this by spending on distribution. It has already built the bottling plants. Now it plans to increase the number of fridges and cooled vending machines in its region to 500,000 - a 70 per cent increase - in the next two years.

However, there is no guarantee that the drink will catch on. The Italians have stubbornly stuck to water and coffee. People in cooler climates may also drink less Coca-Cola.

Merrill Lynch, the stockbroker, forecasts annual revenue growth of about 9 per cent. Profits will grow at a similar rate, but due to huge depreciation charges they will start from a very low base of just £22.8m this year. That leaves CCB, which is likely to be worth at least £1.7bn, looking fully valued. For a short-term ride, get on board. But for a longer-term play, wait for CCB to lose some of its fizz.

Why Cox takes risks for Names

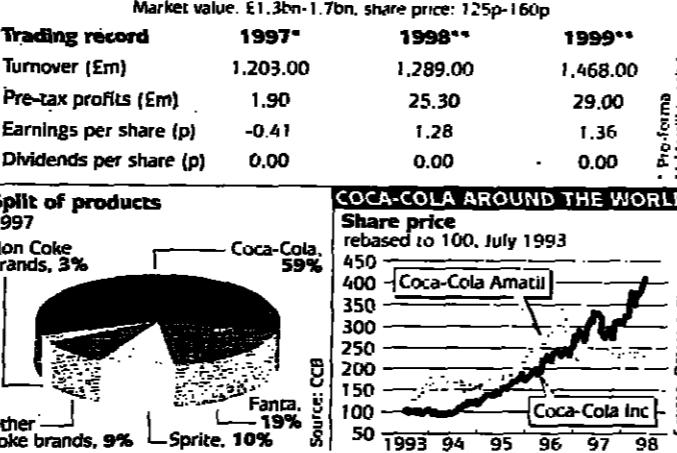
BUYING OUT Lloyd's of London Names is an expensive business, as Cox Insurance showed yesterday when it asked shareholders for £65m for precisely that purpose. So how do shareholders decide whether to support this sort of deal?

Cox is an integrated Lloyd's vehicle - a quoted company whose purpose is to buy Names out of the market. It does this by quoting a price for their capacity - the rights they

INVESTMENT

EDITED BY PETER THAL LARSEN

COCA-COLA BEVERAGES: AT A GLANCE



hold to underwrite a given amount of Lloyd's business. The end result is an insurance company which starts taking on Lloyd's-style risks.

Cox and about 16 other ILVs aim to buy names out until they control 100 per cent of their target syndicates. At first, they would be offered 3p or 4p for every £1 of capacity. Now Names have caught on to the true value of their holdings, the ILVs are having to offer up to 25p per £1.

The ILVs also need to deposit funds at Lloyd's to back the risks they underwrite. So buying out £162.5m of capacity could cost as much as £120m. Many ILVs are only half way towards achieving their targets and need capital urgently.

If Cox had full control of its syndicates, it would have after-tax earnings of £43.5m this year - comfortably justifying the rights issue price of 40p. The risk, however, is that the price of buying out Names rises even further and that Cox's timetable of taking full control by 2001 starts slipping. But ILVs are ideal for investors who want exposure to Lloyd's without putting all their possessions on the line. Cox shares, which rose 1p to 46p yesterday, are a good bet.

This unit has been almost untouched by sterling's rise as most of its plants are abroad, while the wide spread of its customer base has cushioned the impact of the Far Eastern turmoil.

After yesterday's profit downgrades and price collapse, the stocks are trading on a forward multiple of 17 times 1999 earnings. With growth in the core business expected to continue in the coming years, they are certainly worth holding.

CRITCHLEY GROUP is a perfect example of the sorry state UK manufacturers are in. The maker of electrical accessories yesterday

warned that poor sales in its electronic components unit will slow down profit growth in the current year.

The division, which produces isolation devices for European telecommunications companies, has been hit by the all-too-familiar double whammy of a strong pound and the knock-on effect of the Asian crisis, which caused a sharp drop in the telecoms giants' order books.

The profit warning triggered a wave of selling, which left the shares down 10 per cent to 762.5p, and a slate of downgrades of brokers forecasts.

The consensus for 1999 earnings is now around £10m, compared with £1m before the announcement.

But the market's reaction appears overdone. The electronic components division accounts for only 17 per cent of Critchley's turnover and around a tenth of profits. The bulk of the company's earnings comes from its cable accessories operations, which have seen good growth in sales since the start of 1998, with a couple of best-selling devices up almost 20 per cent on a year ago.

This unit has been almost untouched by sterling's rise as most of its plants are abroad, while the wide spread of its customer base has cushioned the impact of the Far Eastern turmoil.

After yesterday's profit downgrades and price collapse, the stocks are trading on a forward multiple of 17 times 1999 earnings. With growth in the core business expected to continue in the coming years, they are certainly worth holding.

IN BRIEF

End of EU duty-free may cost BAA £30m

THE ABOLITION of duty-free within the European Union next year will hit BAA's annual profits by £20-30m, its chief executive, Sir John Egan, told shareholders yesterday. The figure cited by Sir John was slightly lower than the forecast made in May by BAA's finance director, who said that BAA would take a negative impact of £35-40m on its annual pre-tax profit due to the end of EU duty-free sales.

£42m luxury return

WALKER GREENBANK, the furnishing fabrics to luxury carpets group, said it would return £42m to shareholders after the sale of its wallcoverings operations to GenCorp of the US. Walker Greenbank yesterday said contracts have been exchanged over the proposed disposal of its wallcoverings businesses Muraspec and Brymor to a wholly owned unit of GenCorp for £70m cash.

Arriva goes Dutch

The transport group Arriva, formerly called Cowie, has confirmed it is in talks to buy the Dutch group VSN-North, which operates bus services in the North of the Netherlands. VSN-North has an annualised turnover of more than £100m, runs some 750 buses and employs around 3,500 people. If negotiations are successful, the consideration will be funded from group resources. Arriva said.

Bloomsbury's catch

BLOOMSBURY PUBLISHING has said it has secured the English language publishing rights, excluding North America, for the next three books by Joanne Rowling about the children's character Harry Potter. Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets has gone straight to the top of the adult hardback top 10 list.

Arriva is selling Jeffrey Archer and John Grisham. Bloomsbury shares jumped 20p to close at 104.5p.

Golden acquisition

GOLDEN VALE is set to acquire the Irish Rye Valley Foods for up to £121.9m. The company said yesterday Golden Vale will initially pay £16.5m cash for Rye Valley, which manufactures and markets customer-label prepared meals for the British, Irish and Continental markets. A further £12.9m will be payable on a deferred basis if certain profit targets are met.

Mr Redwood and the carpetbaggers

PEOPLE AND BUSINESS

BY JOHN WILLCOCK



So was Mr Holtham tempted to use his New Labour contacts by going into lobbying, I ask? "No - if you want to make money, you can do it in a cleaner way," he says.

Kirsty Hughes is due to join the IPPR in September as deputy director from Chatham House.

Insiders reckon it is "make or break" time for the IPPR, which did well in helping Labour in opposition but has found itself a bit marginalised since Tony and friends seized power. All in, going to manage funds for Norwich Union sounds like a sound move.

HOWARD DAVIES is all set to bowl the first ball in this year's Financial Ashes, due to be held as usual by The Securities Institute on the Honourable Artillery Company (HAC) Ground in the city. The Financial Ashes, set for 23 July, is a three-way cricket tournament now in its sixth year. A team of Australian brokers and a South African team called City Connections will challenge the Institute's team representing England.

A couple of years ago there were tense moments when the institute failed to provide enough beer, causing the Australians (that year's winners) to choke on lemonade. In the interests of world peace, if nothing else, one trusts the HAC's beer tents are better supplied this year.

BRAD LEEK is leaving UBS in London after nine years with the bank to join Bankers Trust in New York as managing director and global head of foreign exchange sales.

Mr Leek has a degree from the University of Sussex and an MBA from the London Management Centre. He will report to Ivan Ritoza, managing director and global head of foreign exchange, who moved from Singapore to London in May.

Name	Turnover (£)	EPS	Dividend	Pay day	Ex-Dividend
Barclay Crisps (I)	17.6m (16.0m)	0.011p (0.015p)	1p (1.2p)	01/10/98	20/07/98
Fruit Holdings (F)	51.0m (41.6m)	1.033p (1.27p)	0.30p (0.25p)	05/08/98	20/07/98
Galt Thomas (F)	6.2m (5.3m)	0.234p (0.269p)	1.50p (1.25p)	-	-
Matrix Healthcare (I)	1.4m (0.767m)	-0.285m (0.083m)	n/a	-	-
New London Capital (F)	-	8.5m (5.5m)	6.00p (7.0p)	25/09/98	24/08/98
Williams Rasmussen (F)	10.0m (10.5m)	8.16p (4.95p)	2.68p (2.5p)	01/10/98	17/08/98
Somerset (F)	3.7m (3.46m)	-11.1m (10.4m)	11.4p (10.4p)	11/10/98	02/10/98

(F) Final (I) Interim (I) EPS = pre-exceptional *

SPORT

Tour de France 1998: Germany's wunderkind has won the battle with his waistline in time for tomorrow's start

Ullrich pumped and ready for action

He may have over-indulged after his 1997 victory, but 'The Tourminator' is back and ready to defend his title. By Robin Nicholl

TOUR DE FRANCE success did not go to Jan Ullrich's head. It went to his waistline. Six months after Germany found a new sporting wunderkind he developed a double chin and his belt ran out of notches.

Ullrich, who had rocked the Tour in his 1996 debut at the age of 22 by finishing second, and amazed it by winning last year, put on 13 kilos (29lb) in post-season enjoyment. The German media who had dubbed him "The Tourminator" were worried. Their chubby hero was talking slimming rather than winning. That was in April. Now the battle of the bulge has been won and Ullrich appears confident and ready to roll.

"I am satisfied with my shape. It is getting better each day. I hope to race the Tour as strongly as I did last year," was the bad news for his rivals in the 3,850km race which begins in Dublin tomorrow.

"My goal is to reach Paris in the yellow jersey, and that is realistic, considering the strong team I have at my disposal."

"My weight is all right now. I will not have one kilogram more than at the same time last year. All the talk about my weight and shape has not been stressful because those around me ensured that I was not exposed to my critics."

January may seem a long time ago, but when Ullrich weighed in at a training camp in the Canary Islands the scales sagged to 83 kilos. Then he caught flu, and the signals from the early races set off more

alarms. He quit his first race after 35km of the first day, lost almost an hour to the contenders over five days of another race, was a non-starter in the opening Milan to San Remo Classic, and lost more than 12 minutes in yet another engagement.

"I am not letting it get me down. Riders gain weight in the winter," said Ullrich, but May arrived with him still six kilos above his 73 kilos for the start of the 1997 Tour.

"We have learned a lesson. Next winter we will be more vigilant," said Rudy Pevenage, the assistant team chief of the Deutsche Telekom squad in a head-shaking review of Ullrich's two-month spree of holidaying and partying with his girlfriend Gaby.

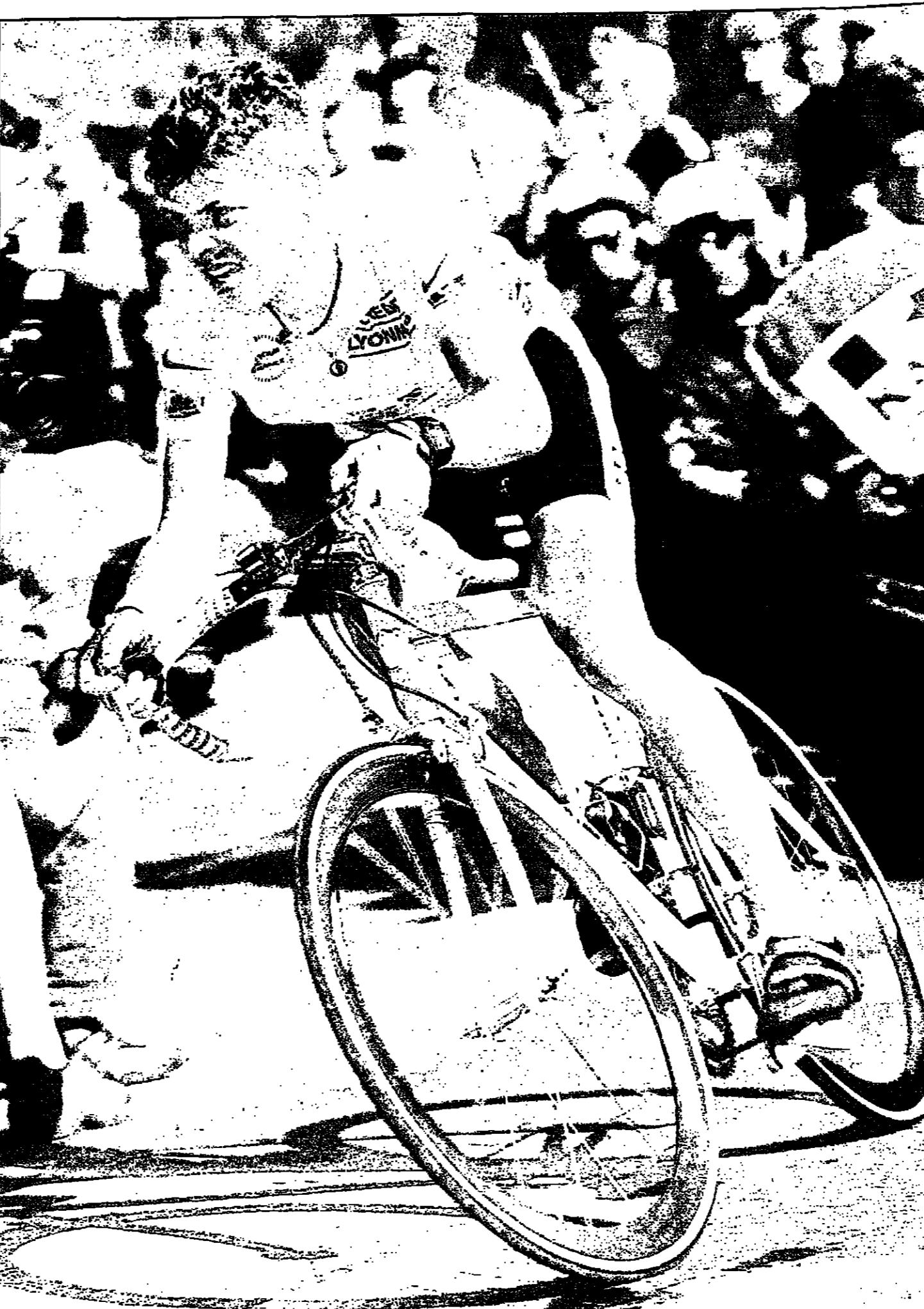
"I have never trained so hard and with so much pressure," Ullrich said. His name started to appear in the top half of the results and he wound up his Tour training with fourth overall in the French Route de Sud.

Ullrich came from a frugal background to sample the fruits of success. One of three brothers brought up alone by their mother Marianne, who laboured on an East German farm, he was 16 in 1989 when the Berlin Wall was brought down.

It opened a new world to the red-headed teenager from Rostock, who was already learning the disciplines of a sporting life from the authoritarian trainer Peter Becker. "He is like a father to me. I can talk with him about things I would not share with anyone else," said Ullrich, who was three when his real father left the family.



Ullrich: Weight problem



Jan Ullrich, of Germany, en route to his impressive 1997 Tour de France victory

Phil O'Connor

By 1993, Becker had shaped a world amateur road-race champion, and a year later, Ullrich won a bronze medal in the world time-trial championship.

Telekom's Belgian manager, Walter Godefroot, was quick to get his signature on a contract, but was still

unaware of exactly how much talent he had in Ullrich.

"In the 1996 Tour de France, I intended that he would pull out after getting the feel of the race," Godefroot said. "But he surprised me day after day. After some phenomenal work for Bjarne Riis [the Danish

winner that year], he won the St Emilion time trial. Then in the 1997 stage into Andorra he showed that he had the qualities of a big champion."

He arrived first, and alone, at the Arcalis ski station. There was still 12 days to go to the Paris finale where

Ullrich would finish with nine minutes and nine seconds to spare over the Frenchman Richard Virenque, the biggest winning advantage for 13 years. Ullrich was then only 23. At that age Miguel Indurain was still four years away from the first of his five Tour triumphs.

"It is more like a dictatorship which is prone to coups and last year's winner is more than likely to be attacked from all sides to see if he has weakened."

Yet a confident Ullrich could win it, while Olano and Zulle have something to prove - Olano that he has rediscovered the form that was sapped last year by infected tonsils, and Zulle that he can be a contender like in 1995, when he finished second overall.

Even as "depressed" as he admits to being, Boardman should not be discounted. Averaging 50kph-plus over short distances is, after all, his speciality. However, the other 3,844.4km is something else.

Coulthard wants to keep attacking

McLaren's joint No 1 is hoping the British Grand Prix will bring a change of luck. By Derick Allsop

role and discourage such deployment of partners. He has joint No 1 status with Hakkinen at McLaren but considers himself in credit after moving over for the Finn in the final race of last year and the opening round this season.

"I believe too much is made of this master plan at Ferrari," he said. "If you look at it, Eddie has moved over for Michael in one race, at Suzuka, last year. I have actually given up track position twice to Michael."

"A lot of credit has been given to Eddie but the fact is that Eddie is just not as quick as Michael. Not even Eddie believes he is as quick as Michael."

"I have shown my loyalty to the team on the two occasions I have been asked, and now it's for the team to just keep doing what they're doing, which is allowing us to go out there and race."

"The championship should be won because you have beaten everyone. It's a recent

thing, this putting all your eggs in one basket. Why?"

McLaren have traditionally shared the contents of their basket between their drivers and pride themselves in their technical capacity to do so.

Coulthard said: "The team is capable of supplying equal machinery so as I see it team orders is not an issue for us. If I qualify in front and I'm leading at the first corner, what more can anyone expect of me but to go for the win?"

"The only way to win the championship is to attack and McLaren know this. The moment you try to defend you go on the back foot and I don't believe the team will do that."

"The policy of attacking has served McLaren well so far. If the second half of the season goes like the first, Mika will win the championship and we will win the constructors' championship, so there is no need for anyone to do any covering up."

The problem for Coulthard



David Coulthard: 'I can pull the lead back'

with that scenario is he would miss out on the drivers' title and by next season the balance of power might have shifted away from McLaren.

"It would be optimistic to expect Mika and Michael to pick up only one point from the next three races, but things can change and there are eight races to go. Just as Mika has opened up a lead of 20 points over me in the first half of the season, so I can pull it back in the second half."

"I'm not going to adopt the attitude it's an uphill struggle and go all negative. I am going to try to win the British Grand Prix and take it from there."

THE TWO current British drivers who have won their home Grand Prix are resigned to a distant view of the main event this time yet consider the race no less significant to their cause, writes Derick Allsop.

Success is relative and for Damon Hill, the former world champion, triumphant at Silverstone in 1994, a first point at the wheel of the Jordan on Sunday would be a significant and cherished achievement.

Johnny Herbert, who took over at the top of the British podium in 1995, is anxious to add to the solitary point he registered on the opening day of the season in order to sustain his hope he can yet earn the chance of competing for the championship.

Hill, who broke his duck with Arrows at Silverstone last year, has endured another frustrating season at Jordan, but he has recovered in the duel with his first opponent, team-mate Ralf Schumacher, and maintains that at the age of 37, he can still be a force in Formula One.

"It doesn't really concern me. I think it's laughable, most of it, utterly laughable. Since when has he been interested in the regulations? It is a joke, coming from him."

"I'm confident I can be competitive. I don't think there are

any signs yet that I'm less competitive than someone around here who's a lot younger, a very fast driver and reputedly as talented as his brother."

"So I'm putting myself against the toughest challengers that I can find and still feel I can hold my own and be competitive."

Hill seems unable to escape the spectre of family Schumacher: Michael again directed his disdain at the Englishman after last month's Canadian Grand Prix, accusing him of dangerous driving.

"Unfortunately I have a reactive streak in me and so I have to check myself," Hill said. "I have spent many seasons holding my tongue about Michael, and the innuendoes and comments still keep coming."

"If he continues like that I will lob some back his way, but I'd regret it if it should get to that. I want people to know I have a sense of humour about it. Honestly."

"It doesn't really concern me. I think it's laughable, most of it, utterly laughable. Since when has he been interested in the regulations? It is a joke, coming from him."

"I don't know what's about with him and me, but if he can crack a smile about it, then

we're going to be fine and I'll be happy with that."

Ralf is not like Michael in that regard. I think he feels a bit awkward about it all. My relationship with Ralf is good. He's a very quiet boy and doesn't really involve himself with me that much."

Herbert, 34, has not given up on his championship dream and cannot understand why leading teams continue to overlook him. Several drivers have been muted as targets for Williams, including the other Sauber driver, Jean Alesi, but not Herbert.

"I don't see why anyone should dismiss me," Herbert said. "Especially after this season. Jean's got a reputation for being quick but overall I've been quicker."

"I'm very happy at Sauber and I wouldn't want to leave unless it was to join one of the top teams. But I am hungry for the challenge of going for the championship. I'm not here just to make up the numbers. I would have got out years ago rather than that."

"I know I still have it in me to be world champion. I'm driving as well as ever and I'm still fit enough and young enough. Both Nigel Mansell and Damon Hill were older than I am when they won the championship."

THE INDEPENDENT
Friday 10 July 1998

THE INDEPENDENT
Friday 10 July 1

for tomorrow's start
Briton playing down his chances

GOLF

BY ANDY FARRELL
at Loch Lomond

LEE WESTWOOD went fishing yesterday safe in the knowledge that his four-under-par total, later beaten by a shot when veteran Scot Ross Drummond birdied the last for a 66, would guarantee him a late tee-time for today's third round of the Standard Life World Invitational.

As opposed to his golf - Westwood plays off plus-six when he takes on his dad - the 25-year-old's fishing handicap is 36 and Andrew Coltart, his future brother-in-law, ended the afternoon two trout up. Fishing of another kind, in much murkier waters, was going on in the press interview room.

Tom Lehman, the defending champion whose bogey-free round of 68 brought him back to one under, is articulate, perceptive and has a sense of humour which is a dangerous combination when it comes to talking about Colin Montgomerie. It all started with a reference to the laid-back style of Westwood.

The youngster missed chances left, right and centre but did not drop a shot in a second successive 68. "He just plays golf, has a smile on his face and seems to be pretty easy going," Lehman said. "He would fit pretty well into California."

Is it essential to have that demeanour to get on in America? Lehman was asked. "Not necessarily. The one thing you do need is good PR," he replied. "I think we all know who we're talking about."

"It's unfortunate that once you get labelled a certain way, it's tough to shake it. So Lee has good vibes going and Monty has to get over this negative perception. It's unfair because the average golfing public in America doesn't know him. Off the course he is fantastic to be around, a gentleman. On the course he's just a tough competitor and the players know and respect that. I've seen



Sandy Lyle tries to avoid a bunker on his way to the green as he plays out of trouble on the seventh at Loch Lomond yesterday

Paul Severn/Allsport

Monty do things on the course which make people raise their eyebrows but there's no need for someone to get heckled like that. If he were American they would love him, like John McEnroe.

Should Colin change? No. What makes him a great player is his fiery competitiveness. You take that away from him

and he's not Colin Montgomerie any more."

Monty found it easy to agree. "He's right. I shouldn't change anything. I've been quite successful. If I wasn't, I would change something."

But it was impossible to get him to bite on whether he needed better PR and what he could do about it.

Having felt like he had been led up Galloway's Hill, the name

"Most definitely I get a hard time, I'm not going to deny that. It's undeniable. Obviously, that's his opinion. Possibly, he's right. Possibly, he's wrong." That was the shortened version and the way he circumnavigated the loch suggests it's a sensitive issue.

Having felt like he had been

of the 13th here. Montgomerie actually got burned at the 14th. A short par-four, Monty went for the green and found the Ann Burn. A six left him at one over after a 71.

At the same hole, Westwood ignored the advice of his caddie, Mick Doran, to lay up and went for the green. He missed, but started dry, and then

chipped to 15 feet. "See, you could have been there from the fairway," said Doran. Riled, Westwood holed the putt and saluted his caddie with a gesture which suggested a two rather than a three. "My aggression is the best part of my game so not to use it is to lose my advantage," Westwood said.

LOCH LOMOND WORLD INVITATIONAL (GBR or ire unless stated)
Leading scores 137 R Drummond 70
67: 138 L Westwood 69 69, S Allan (Aus)
70: 139 D Eason (Swe) 70 69, 44
P Brachman 71, A Collett 71
Woodrum 67 73, G Orr 68 72; 141
Spence 70 71, P McGuire 72 69, 5 Ap-
71 70; 142 I Garibout 73 69, S Garcia (Sp)
71 71, C Dennis (US) 74 68, A Celso (Per)
71 71, C Rocca (It) 64 70, P Baker 73
68; 143 J Hinchliffe 74 69, C Corlett 73
72 71, J-M Olazabal (Sp) 72 71; 145 T
Bjorn (Den) 73 72, Missed cut; 148 M
Kudo (US) 73 76, 153 M Brooks (US)
75 74.

Golding holds 60s advantage

SAILING
BY STUART ALEXANDER

THE EARLY advantage in the battle of the two Open 60s racing in the Atlantic Ocean from Falmouth to Charleston was still with Britain's Mike Golding in Group 4 last night despite some early problems with sail and gear damage.

As his Italian rival Giovanni Soldini had taken Fila on a more southerly route, Golding said: "I determined to stay north and look for opportunities to head south after passing over the top of the high. Both options seem reasonable and perhaps more could be gained from staying with Fila and trialling our yacht's boat for boat, but this is a race and it would be against my instincts to go a long way round."

Golding said that only two days into the race he had ripped a gennaker and then, when trying to repair it, the breeze had picked up and some turning blocks controlling the mainsail ripped off. "It was a good hour before I was finally up to speed again," he said.

Golding, who is using the race to bed down his new GBP1m yacht added: "There was, and is, some trepidation sailing alone in such a wild boat, and that won't go away until I've weathered my first storm."

It was, he said, unexpected to see Soldini take the southerly route. "To try to jag it so early in the race was a real surprise," he said. "He is undoubtedly one of the best from the last race and he may be preserving himself and his boat for the main event."

High rollers on Super highway to a bigger game

THREE WEEKENDS of matches in diverse locations around Britain rank as one of Super League's brighter ideas. It is a symptom of the tensions within the sport, however, that there are otherwise well-intentioned people whose darker instincts are to hope that they fail spectacularly.

The programme of games "on the road" - which starts with tonight's meeting between Leeds and Salford at Gateshead - is a piece of ingenuity springing out of a three-week gap in the season, originally inserted to accommodate a triangular Test series in Australia.

Plan B was that home internationals and Super League fixtures should be played as double-headers throughout the country. However, when Super League made it clear that it would not release players, that left Plan C: six matches, all with League points at stake, staged from Edinburgh to

Northampton and South Wales. However conscious they are of the importance to the game as a whole of this project going well, there are bound to be some at the Rugby Football League who say, under their breath: "OK, you're so damn clever. Let's see how you perform."

The League's offer to help through its ticket sales operation for the games was refused and there have been a number of bad-tempered fax exchanges between the two organisations. The RFL's officials would not even be at tonight's game had they not been invited by Gateshead Council, with whom they were working to develop the game in the North-East before Super League was ever a gleam in Rupert Murdoch's eye.

So there will be some schadenfreude if the whole business falls flat on its face. Games organised in Gateshead by the RFL have attracted an average attendance of more than 7,000; Super League says it will be happy with 5,000, but anything much less will be embarrassing.

Given the abrasive relationship between the RFL and Super League, some pleasure in their discomfort would be understandable. However, it needs to be submerged in the broader interests of the game.

Super League, for good or ill, controls the game's shop window. They cannot be made to look foolish on this adventure without the whole game suffering.

The product, as Super League insists on calling it, has been good. All that remains is persuading the broader pub-

lic to try it. Ticket sales have been sluggish at most Super League clubs, with many regular supporters already committed to holidays and others preferring television coverage to a round trip of several hundred miles.

That makes it a test bed for local support, raising the danger that if Gateshead, for instance, fails to respond, that will fatally undermine the case for a Super League franchise there next season. Gates at Swansea and Cardiff will be scrutinised intensely for the same reason.

The fact remains that this

missionary work is something both the RFL and Super League should have been doing years ago. Clued-up clubs can do the sport any amount of good. Wigan, for instance, are using their trip to Swansea to play St Helens to call in and promote their "twinned" team at Cheltenham.

That is not Super League business. It is rugby league - the sport's - business and a small example of the way that, whatever the personal animosities, the whole game can benefit from spreading its wings.

He said: "I'm in the middle of my most important training and I've been dragged all this way for this. Why couldn't they have had the press conference in Manchester? It's given me an edge, a hunger and an anger for this fight. But to be honest, I've now got a job to do and I'll get past Chris after another battle and then consider my future."

Herold Graham is lined up for a British title fight this autumn, six years after his last domestic championship fight. Graham, aged 39 in September, has been nominated by the Board of Control to challenge the super-middleweight champion Dean Francis, the European title holder, by 31 October.

Henry Wharton has also been handed a British title chance against the light-heavyweight holder Crawford Ashley. Wharton lost a World Boxing Council challenge against Reid 14 months ago. The cruiserweight Johnny Nelson has been ordered to defend his British title against Kelly Oliver.

Billy Schwer will make the first defence of his European lightweight title against the French-based Portuguese Manuel Fernandes at York Hall, Bethnal Green, on 12 September.

Gregory gives 18-year-olds first-team chance

SALFORD ARE giving two 18-year-olds their first-team debuts in tonight's match against Leeds at Gateshead, writes Dave Hadfield.

Andy Gregory has called up Stuart Littleton on the right wing and Simon Svabic as stand-off and goal-kicker for the first of

Super League's itinerant matches over the next three weekends.

"They are there on merit," Gregory said. "They have been playing well in the A team and they are the future of the club. I haven't been happy with certain players' performances and

I said I would give the kids a chance." Svabic, signed from Oldham last November, has

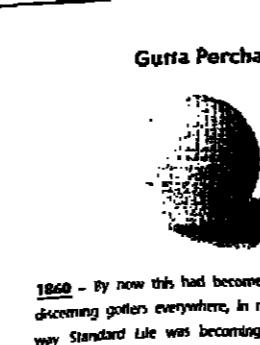
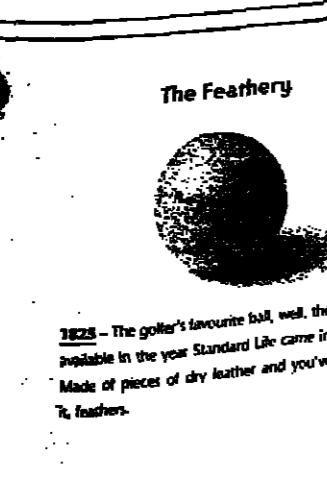
particularly heavy responsibilities. "We are playing the second in the league, on live TV and he is taking the goal-kicks," said Gregory. "Apart from that, there is no pressure on him at all. I'm happy that he will handle it."

Maurice Lindsay, the managing director of Super League, has denied any interest in becoming chairman of the Rugby League, a post from which Sir Rodney Walker has indicated he will stand down later this season. Lindsay, ousted from the League by Walker last year, said he had been approached "from within the game" to consider the chairmanship, but has rejected the approach. David Oxley, who was chief executive of the League before Lindsay, has been suggested as the type of elder statesman who could take over.

Leaders in our field since 1825

STANDARD LIFE

Sponsors of the Loch Lomond golf tournament
8-11 July 1998



The Standard Life Assurance Company is a mutual company registered in Scotland No. 12474. Head Office: 100 London Wall, London EC2Y 5AS. © Standard Life Assurance Company 1998. All rights reserved. Standard Life is a registered trademark of Standard Life Assurance Company.

Lewis reveals defence venue

BOXING

LEONARD LEWIS stages the next defence of his World Boxing Council heavyweight title against Zeljko Mavrovic on 26 September - at the unlikely venue of a Native American reservation at Uncasville, Connecticut.

The match was fixed after a fee of more than £60,000 was put up by the Mohican Sun Casino, trumping the money on offer from the Atlantic City gambling venues which periodically host boxing events.

A special 7,000-capacity pavilion is being built for Lewis's mandatory defence at the existing arena at Uncasville can hold only 1,500 spectators.

"It's the first time the Mohican Sun has staged a major fight," Lewis's promoter, Frank Maloney, said. "They are showing a lot of interest in Lennox and would like to make him a regular attraction there. That's why this new pavilion is being built. If everything is a success, they will be looking to increase its size for future fights."

Lewis will be returning to his training camp 9,000ft up at Big Bear, California, opting for the altitude headquarters instead of a base on the east coast of America.

Maloney added: "I think it's a hard fight, and we are taking it very seriously. Mavrovic is not a really big puncher but he is fast. I know Lennox is taking it seriously by going back to Big Bear; everyone thought he was going to train on the East Coast. When he goes to Big Bear you know that is really taking a fight seriously."

Lewis will earn between £2m-£3m against the slim of the former unbeaten European heavyweight champion, who is based in Germany but trained by a Londoner, Darkie Smith.

Thompson hungry for Eubank

BY MARK PEIRCE

CARL THOMPSON plans to visit a considerable amount of anger and frustration on Chris Eubank when the pair meet for their World Boxing Organisation cruiserweight title rematch in Sheffield on 18 July.

Thompson, who says his promoters are "letting me down badly", was upset at having to attend a press conference close to the venue, with no Eubank in sight.

He said: "I'm in the middle of my most important training and I've been dragged all this way for this. Why couldn't they have had the press conference in Manchester? It's given me an edge, a hunger and an anger for this fight. But to be honest, I've now got a job to do and I'll get past Chris after another battle and then consider my future."

Herold Graham is lined up for a British title fight this autumn, six years after his last domestic championship fight. Graham, aged 39 in September, has been nominated by the Board of Control to challenge the super-middleweight champion Dean Francis, the European title holder, by 31 October.

Henry Wharton has also been handed a British title chance against the light-heavyweight holder Crawford Ashley. Wharton lost a World Boxing Council challenge against Reid 14 months ago. The cruiserweight Johnny Nelson has been ordered to defend his British title against Kelly Oliver.

Billy Schwer will make the first defence of his European lightweight title against the French-based Portuguese Manuel Fernandes at York Hall, Bethnal Green, on 12 September.

Hills proves he can fill Carson's role

By RICHARD EDMONDSON
at Newmarket

RICHARD HILLS will have enjoyed last night with his wife and son as he sipped champagne at his Newmarket home. He had proved he was not as big a loser as some had made out.

Elnadin's success in the July Cup, a double on yesterday's card here and five winners at the meeting were a considerable repose to the whispers who suggested Hills was not up to the posting as Sheikh Hamdan Al Maktoum's retained jockey. He enjoyed it.

"It's horrible being criticised but you've got to try to put it to the back of your mind," the jockey said. "We're in a very competitive game and you're always going to get that. Sometimes it can get to you but days like this make up for it. You just need the right horse underneath you."

It has been Hills' assignment for the last two years to continue the great days Sheikh Hamdan enjoyed with Willie Carson. It was always going to be a job for a big little man. "Willie had tremendous success with Sheikh Hamdan and everybody expects that to be carried on when you are riding that type of horse," he said. "We've been a little bit unlucky. Some horses we thought were going to be good haven't come up to scratch and we've had a lot of injuries. I've tried to keep my cool, keep my head down and keep working. Today I've got on a horse that's done it."

"Sheikh Hamdan has been a

fantastic boss to work for and he's given me confidence the whole way through. When your luck changes, and you get the horses, you're away."

Hills's preparation yesterday morning was to study on video last season's Diadem Stakes at Ascot which announced Elnadin's arrival as a sprinter of some potency. He liked it so much he watched it 10 times.

Rumours circulated before racing that Elnadin was not in the peak of health and he was not the most stunning animal in the paddock. The physique was impressive but his hide looked dull in the company of other burnished creatures.

More significantly, the ground remained frighteningly firm. The atmosphere was humid but the sprinkling of rain that did fall would not have even registered on blotting paper. The conditions were like Ascot last September and so, it transpired, was the performance.

The strategy was without frill or fanciness. "My plan was to get to the fence and let him run his own race," Hills said. "We know he has a lot of speed and I was confident he would travel well throughout the race. I was hoping that once he got a good feel of the ground he would do what he did at Ascot and that's what happened. As far as I was concerned, once he got his ground he was going to justify himself and me."

Team Elnadin again ex-

pressed their gratitude that the course had not been watered.

"It's unfair on horses of this

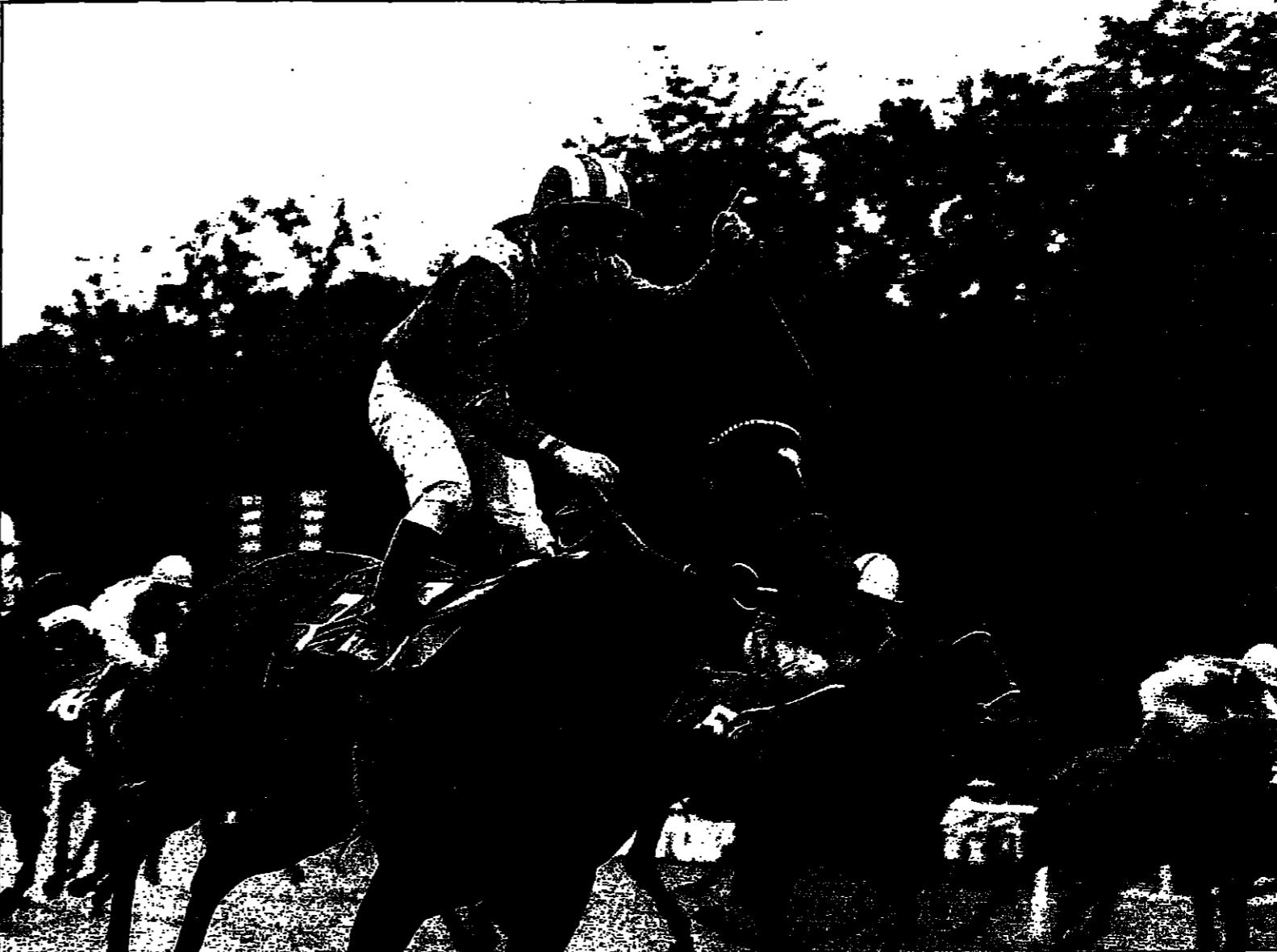
class because you're clipping their wings," Hills said. "Nature should be able to take its course and there are a lot of horses that like fast ground. Records are meant to be broken and we breed horses to run faster."

And a record it was too. No horse, not Marwell, Habibi or Royal Academy, has travelled down the July course's grassy lane as fast as Elnadin. The stewards may have deemed that his rider's rapid whip rhythm was worthy of a two-day ban but that did not even make a chip in the gloss of victory.

John Dunlop, the winding trainer ensured that vindication did not belong entirely to his jockey and revelled in this win after two reverses for his colt. "After his run at Ascot last year one dreamt, and so indeed did all you experts think, that this was a champion sprinter for 1998," Dunlop said. "Today he showed what a horse he is."

The targets are now spread out at York, Haydock and Longchamp and there are no worries about returning Elnadin to the minimum distance. "He has the killing speed for five furlongs," Dunlop said. And the final hurrah may come in the Breeders' Cup Sprint in Kentucky.

These were the races Hills could contemplate yesterday as he considered advice given to him by Carson. "I've been talking to him a lot recently," he said. "He's been a great man, telling me to keep my head down and ignore the people with the pens." He must mean the people who look after swans.



Making a point: Richard Hills on Elnadin celebrates success in yesterday's July Cup at Newmarket

Robert Hallam

Riches in Singapore

SINGAPORE will stage the sixth most valuable race in the world in the year 2000. Worth over £1m, the mile-and-a-quarter contest will celebrate the opening of a course under construction in the north of the country. Entries will be solicited from Europe, Asia, the Americas and Southern Africa and the field of up to 16 runners will be selected by a panel of international handicappers.

YORK
2.05: THE GAY FOX, who looks well handicapped on his best form, should not be far away. Monte Lemos, sure to be better for a recent pipe-opener, may prove the most troublesome rival.

2.35: TOUGH LEADER, a bit disappointing last time, is a cut above today's opponents on his best form and is fancied to make class count. Yavanna's Pace, so impressive when winning a competitive event at Sandown last Friday, may pose most problems despite a 3lb penalty.

HYPERION'S TV TIPS
3.05: ASHRAAKAT, who bounced back to form at Newmarket last time, will be hard to beat. Qilin is the one for the forecast.

3.35: PRIDE OF PENDLE, capable of running big races in competitive handicaps, has solid each-way claims. High Spirits can also go close.

FIRST SHOW
York 2.05
Home C H L T
Monte Lemos 52 94 114 94
Poly Chelley 51 91 91 91
Blitzing Dancer 92 64 62 61
Weekend Magic 92 64 61 61
Spots Carlo 81 104 104 71
The Gay Fox 84 84 71 81
King Of Peru 104 81 81 101
Top Of The Form 161 161 161 161
Each way 4/8 on odds places 1,2,3
C Cash H William Hill S Stanley T Hills

York 3.05
Home C H S T
Ashraakat 45 45 58 58
Qilin 92 51 51 74
Yavanna 102 74 71 71
Monte Lemos 84 74 62 71
Macau 104 91 91 91
Casse Mantel 104 104 104 104
Presto Ca 331 331 331 331
Each way 4/8 on odds places 1,2,3
C Cash H William Hill S Stanley T Hills

York 3.35
Home C H L T
Royal Reward 93 61 61 112
Tough Leader 31 91 91 91
Yester's Pace 103 91 72 91 91
Blitzing Dancer 103 74 72 72 72
Candy Quest 51 92 92 91
Amesora 104 74 74 74 74
Indian Missile 104 104 91 104
Crystal Falls 101 91 91 101
Each way 4/8 on odds places 1,2,3
C Cash H William Hill S Stanley T Hills

RESULTS

NEW MARKET
2.05: 1. FREE OPTION (Dane Olehni) 7-1; 2. Totem 9-4; 3. The Accountant 10-2
12 ran, 6 sthd. (B Hanbury, Newmarket)
Total: £10,000. Tote: £130. DF: £4,130.
CSF: £2,271. Trainer: £1,000.
3.25: 1. MYSTERY (P Goode) 10-1; 2. Sty-
ling Dancer 14-1; 3. Beau Venture 12-10
ran, 2/4. (D Nicholls, Thirsk). Total: £2,000.
E140. Tote: £200. CSF: £1,070. DF: £2,022.
Trainer: £585. Tote: £220.

2.35: 1. ROBERT (G Carter) 7-1; 2. Just
A Little 10-1; 3. Speedster Chieftain 9-2
ran, 2/4. (D Nicholls, Thirsk). Total: £2,000.
E140. Tote: £200. CSF: £1,070. DF: £2,022.
Trainer: £585. Tote: £220.

3.05: 1. MYTHICAL GIRL ...L Detton 8-4
2. ...L Detton 8-4 ...R Hills 9-2
3. ...L Detton 8-4 ...R Hills 9-2
Also ran: 5-2 Chocri (4th), 8-1 Morning
Mus (5th), 10-1 Taracaya (6th), 12-1 Bo-
hemian 33-1 Cockatrice, Roots Shy Shy, Till-
Till 10 ran, 1/4, nk, 1%, nk, 1%. (Winner day 6/
day after losing). Broome Gold 2, lengths at Müsseldorf, 1m.
Dipal Diamond: Without a run for more than a year it can race best for long time when 4- lengths from 1st.
Tiffs Well: Has caught the eye lately. Meets High Spirits 14b better for nine lengths on
track running in May and is well on Dipal Diamond on her latest form.

3.35: 1. BEAU VENTURE (P Goode) 10-1; 2. Sty-
ling Dancer 14-1; 3. Beau Venture 12-10
ran, 2/4. (D Nicholls, Thirsk). Total: £2,000.
E140. Tote: £200. CSF: £1,070. DF: £2,022.
Trainer: £585. Tote: £220.

YORK
2.05: 1. FREE OPTION (Dane Olehni) 7-1;
2. Totem 9-4; 3. The Accountant 10-2
12 ran, 6 sthd. (B Hanbury, Newmarket)
Total: £10,000. Tote: £130. DF: £4,130.
CSF: £2,271. Trainer: £1,000.
3.25: 1. MYSTERY (P Goode) 10-1; 2. Sty-
ling Dancer 14-1; 3. Beau Venture 12-10
ran, 2/4. (D Nicholls, Thirsk). Total: £2,000.
E140. Tote: £200. CSF: £1,070. DF: £2,022.
Trainer: £585. Tote: £220.

2.35: 1. ROBERT (G Carter) 7-1; 2. Just
A Little 10-1; 3. Speedster Chieftain 9-2
ran, 2/4. (D Nicholls, Thirsk). Total: £2,000.
E140. Tote: £200. CSF: £1,070. DF: £2,022.
Trainer: £585. Tote: £220.

3.05: 1. MYTHICAL GIRL ...L Detton 8-4
2. ...L Detton 8-4 ...R Hills 9-2
3. ...L Detton 8-4 ...R Hills 9-2
Also ran: 5-2 Chocri (4th), 8-1 Morning
Mus (5th), 10-1 Taracaya (6th), 12-1 Bo-
hemian 33-1 Cockatrice, Roots Shy Shy, Till-
Till 10 ran, 1/4, nk, 1%, nk, 1%. (Winner day 6/
day after losing). Broome Gold 2, lengths at Müsseldorf, 1m.
Dipal Diamond: Without a run for more than a year it can race best for long time when 4- lengths from 1st.
Tiffs Well: Has caught the eye lately. Meets High Spirits 14b better for nine lengths on
track running in May and is well on Dipal Diamond on her latest form.

3.35: 1. BEAU VENTURE (P Goode) 10-1; 2. Sty-
ling Dancer 14-1; 3. Beau Venture 12-10
ran, 2/4. (D Nicholls, Thirsk). Total: £2,000.
E140. Tote: £200. CSF: £1,070. DF: £2,022.
Trainer: £585. Tote: £220.

SOUTHWELL
1.45: 1. MARIGLIANO (R Winston) 2-1 ter;
2. Maiteena 8-1; 3. Yeoman Oliver 9-8
ran, 2/4. (K Morgan). Total: £250. E150.
Tote: £200. CSF: £140. DF: £680. CSF: £164. Total:
£2,022. DF: £2,022.

2.16: 1. HIT THE SPOT (G Offield) 6-4 ter;
2. Miss All Around 6-1; 3. The Accountant 7-2
12 ran, 6 sthd. (B Hanbury, Newmarket)
Total: £10,000. Tote: £130. DF: £4,130.
CSF: £2,271. Trainer: £1,000.
2.45: 1. MYSTERY (P Goode) 7-1; 2. Sty-
ling Dancer 14-1; 3. Beau Venture 12-10
ran, 2/4. (D Nicholls, Thirsk). Total: £2,000.
E140. Tote: £200. CSF: £1,070. DF: £2,022.
Trainer: £585. Tote: £220.

3.15: 1. TUN TURN (T Williams) 40-1; 2. Ant-
ington Girl 5-1; 3. Jack Ruby 11-1; 4. Tiff-
Tiff 10-1; 5. Miss All Around 6-1; 6. The Accountant
10-1; 7. Totem 9-4; 8. Styling Dancer 14-1
ran, 2/4. (D Nicholls, Thirsk). Total: £2,000.
E140. Tote: £200. CSF: £1,070. DF: £2,022.
Trainer: £585. Tote: £220.

3.45: 1. STYLING DANCER (P Goode) 10-1; 2. Ant-
ington Girl 5-1; 3. Jack Ruby 11-1; 4. Tiff-
Tiff 10-1; 5. Miss All Around 6-1; 6. The Accountant
10-1; 7. Totem 9-4; 8. Styling Dancer 14-1
ran, 2/4. (D Nicholls, Thirsk). Total: £2,000.
E140. Tote: £200. CSF: £1,070. DF: £2,022.
Trainer: £585. Tote: £220.

4.10: 1. (7) Lycra Cup handicaps
1. HO LENGOM J Kinsale 14-1
2. KumalaR Hills 9-2
3. ...L Detton 8-4 ...R Hills 9-2
Also ran: 10-2 Bold Faz, 11-1 Taracaya (6th), 12-1 Bo-
hemian 33-1 Cockatrice, Roots Shy Shy, Till-
Till 10 ran, 1/4, nk, 1%, nk, 1%. (Winner day 6/
day after losing). Broome Gold 2, lengths at Malmö, 1m.
Dipal Diamond: Without a run for more than a year it can race best for long time when 4- lengths from 1st.
Tiffs Well: Has caught the eye lately. Meets High Spirits 14b better for nine lengths on
track running in May and is well on Dipal Diamond on her latest form.

4.45: 1. STYLING DANCER (P Goode) 10-1; 2. Ant-
ington Girl 5-1; 3. Jack Ruby 11-1; 4. Tiff-
Tiff 10-1; 5. Miss All Around 6-1; 6. The Accountant
10-1; 7. Totem 9-4; 8. Styling Dancer 14-1
ran, 2/4. (D Nicholls, Thirsk). Total: £2,000.
E140. Tote: £200. CSF: £1,070. DF: £2,022.
Trainer: £585. Tote: £220.

5.15: 1. STYLING DANCER (P Goode) 10-1; 2. Ant-
ington Girl 5-1; 3. Jack Ruby 11-1; 4. Tiff-
Tiff 10-1; 5. Miss All Around 6-1; 6. The Accountant
10-1; 7. Totem 9-4; 8. Styling Dancer 14-1
ran, 2/4. (D Nicholls, Thirsk). Total: £2,000.
E140. Tote: £200. CSF: £1,070. DF: £2,022.
Trainer: £585. Tote: £220.

5.45: 1. STYLING DANCER (P Goode) 10-1; 2. Ant-
ington Girl 5-1; 3. Jack Ruby 11-1; 4. Tiff-
Tiff 10-1; 5. Miss All Around 6-1; 6. The Accountant
10-1; 7. Totem 9-4; 8. Styling Dancer 14-1
ran, 2/4. (D Nicholls, Thirsk). Total: £2,000.
E140. Tote: £200. CSF: £1,070. DF: £2,022.
Trainer: £585. Tote: £220.

6.15: 1. STYLING DANCER (P Goode) 10-1; 2. Ant-
ington Girl 5-1; 3. Jack Ruby 11-1; 4. Tiff-
Tiff 10-1; 5. Miss All Around 6-1; 6. The Accountant
10-1; 7. Totem 9-4; 8. Styling Dancer 14-1
ran, 2/4. (D Nicholls, Thirsk). Total: £2,000.
E140. Tote: £200. CSF: £1,070. DF: £2,022.
Trainer: £585. Tote: £220.

6.45: 1. STYLING DANCER (P Goode) 10-1; 2. Ant-
ington Girl 5-1; 3. Jack Ruby 11-1; 4. Tiff-
Tiff 10-1; 5. Miss All Around 6-1; 6. The Accountant
10-1; 7. Totem 9-4; 8. Styling Dancer 14-1
ran, 2/4. (D Nicholls, Thirsk). Total: £2,000.
E140. Tote: £200. CSF: £1,070. DF: £2,022.
Trainer: £585. Tote: £220.

7.15: 1. STYLING DANCER (P Goode) 10-1; 2. Ant-
ington Girl 5-1; 3. Jack Ruby 11-1; 4. Tiff-
Tiff 10-1; 5. Miss All Around 6-1; 6. The Accountant
10-1; 7. Totem 9-4; 8. Styling Dancer 14-1
ran, 2/4. (D Nicholls, Thirsk). Total: £2,000.
E140. Tote: £200. CSF: £1,070. DF: £2,022.
Trainer: £585. Tote: £220.

7.45: 1. STYLING DANCER (P Goode) 10-1; 2. Ant-
ington Girl 5-1; 3. Jack Ruby 11-1; 4. Tiff-
Tiff 10-1; 5. Miss All Around 6-1; 6. The Accountant
10-1; 7. Totem 9-4; 8. Styling Dancer 14-1
ran, 2/4. (D Nicholls, Thirsk). Total: £2,000.
E140. Tote: £200. CSF: £1,070. DF: £2,022.
Trainer: £585. Tote: £220.

8.15: 1. STYLING DANCER (P Goode) 10-1; 2. Ant-
ington Girl 5-1; 3. Jack Ruby 11-1; 4. Tiff-
Tiff 10-1; 5. Miss All Around 6-1; 6. The Accountant
10-1; 7. Totem 9-4; 8. Styling D

Palmer's new image suited to victory

SWIMMING

BY JAMES PARRACK

ALL EYES were on Paul Palmer yesterday as he stood on the blocks for the 200 metre freestyle final. "There were a few wolf whistles, but no one looks stupid when they win," he said. And then he won.

Palmer was one of a number of internationals to wear the latest in swimming technology, the body hugging Adidas Equipment Bodysuit. Covering the entire body with just head, hands and feet showing, it is more like a wetsuit than a swimsuit. But despite illness from altitude training in Arizona eight weeks ago, Palmer swam to within half a second of his British record. "I've had a torrid time over the last couple of months and to swim my fastest-ever time in a trials is down to the suit," he said.

The Teflon-coated Lycra suit reduces drag in the water and by gripping the body, minimises muscle oscillation - body wobbles to you and I - which delays fatigue.

This weekend's champion-



Charlotte Niblett powers through the water in the women's 200m butterfly in Sheffield yesterday, wearing the latest in swimming technology - Adidas's all-over bodysuit

Empics

ships are doubling as selection trials for the Commonwealth Games and it was encouraging that the first three finishers in each event were safely under the qualifying standard.

Second to Palmer was Gavin Meadows. Well under British

record pace for the first 100m, Meadows was overhauled only in the final 10m. This will only strengthen the 200m freestyle relay team, four times European champions, as they take on the world champions, Australia, in Kuala Lumpur.

In the 100m butterfly James Hickman missed his British record by 0.06sec as he dominated the race. Not yet fully rested, Hickman is confident he will break the record in September. However, there was a setback for Steve Party, the Eu-

ropean 200m bronze medallist, when the electronic timing failed and the manual back-up placed him fourth by 0.02sec. He cannot now be selected in the 100m event.

There was a surprise, too, for Karen Pickering in the

women's 200m

freestyle, as she

finished a distant third to Claire Huddart. The City of Leeds swimmer won in 2:01.67, a personal best. Under the qualifying time, Pickering will be fully prepared by September.

The youngest winner yes-

terday was the 16-year-old Samantha Nisbet in the 400m individual medley. The British record for this event was set by Sharron Davies in the Moscow Olympics in 1980. The heir apparent is five seconds behind but closing fast. Yet the

youngest member of the Commonwealth Games team is likely to be Nisbet's 14-year-old team-mate from Portsmouth, Holly Fox. These two competed for the national title yesterday and the race is on to break the oldest record in the book.

WOLVERHAMPTON

HYPERION

2.20 Critical Air 2.50 Lady Eli 3.20 Sea Spouse 3.50 Bapsford 4.20 Banneret 4.50 Pharaoh's Joy

GONG: Standard

STALLS: 21 outside; remainder inside.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: High best

■ Fibresound, left-hand, oval course.

A Course is N of town on A448. Wolverhampton station, Trn. A448, 215; Wolverhampton C.R. (OAP members of Diamond Club 99); Victoria Restaurant, 22500 (including entrance and meal). CAR PARK: free.

LEADING TRAINERS: R Hollifield 70-69 (10s); M Johnson 52-225 (229s); J Berry 50-329 (52s); P Haslam 40-220 (82s); D McKeown 33-275 (228s); F Williams 28-282 (82s); D McKeown 33-275 (228s); F Williams 28-282 (82s); W Whitmore 23-203 (11s); FAVOURITES: 4-1 (7-12-21-24)

BLINKED FIRST TIME: Ruby Bear (250)

2.20 LEGAL AND GENERAL MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS F) £3,000 added 3YO &

1 428-43 CRITICAL AIR (8) St M Precess 9.0 ... G Duffield 5

2 430-20 DRYAD (28) N Lutmon 9.0 ... P Goods 7

3 600-4 DARRAH (11) P Haining 9.0 ... N Adams 4

4 04223 ONE TO GO (11) (B) Berry 9.0 ... Mite Hansen 7

5 04000 SUN DANCER (11) (B) Berry 9.0 ... N Adams 7

6 04000 DEEKEYSHY (13) J Belling 8.9 ... J Edmunds 8

7 500-4 GAME BIRD (4) J Searing 8.9 ... S Righton 7

8 04225 LINGUISTIC DANCER (8) N Necombe 8.9 ... P Murphy 9

9 04225 AMBER REIGN (11) (B) Necombe 8.9 ... P Murphy 9

BETTING: 4-1 Critical Air, 3-1 Darrah, 7-5 Dryad, 8-2 Game Bird, 9-1 Sun Dancer, 10-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 11-1 Deekeshy, 12-1 One To Go, 13-1 Deekeyshy, 14-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 15-1 Sun Dancer, 16-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 17-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 18-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 19-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 20-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 21-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 22-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 23-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 24-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 25-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 26-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 27-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 28-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 29-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 30-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 31-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 32-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 33-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 34-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 35-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 36-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 37-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 38-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 39-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 40-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 41-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 42-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 43-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 44-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 45-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 46-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 47-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 48-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 49-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 50-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 51-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 52-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 53-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 54-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 55-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 56-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 57-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 58-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 59-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 60-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 61-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 62-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 63-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 64-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 65-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 66-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 67-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 68-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 69-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 70-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 71-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 72-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 73-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 74-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 75-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 76-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 77-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 78-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 79-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 80-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 81-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 82-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 83-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 84-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 85-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 86-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 87-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 88-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 89-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 90-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 91-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 92-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 93-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 94-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 95-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 96-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 97-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 98-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 99-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 100-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 101-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 102-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 103-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 104-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 105-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 106-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 107-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 108-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 109-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 110-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 111-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 112-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 113-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 114-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 115-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 116-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 117-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 118-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 119-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 120-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 121-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 122-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 123-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 124-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 125-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 126-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 127-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 128-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 129-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 130-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 131-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 132-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 133-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 134-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 135-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 136-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 137-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 138-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 139-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 140-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 141-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 142-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 143-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 144-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 145-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 146-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 147-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 148-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 149-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 150-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 151-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 152-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 153-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 154-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 155-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 156-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 157-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 158-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 159-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 160-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 161-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 162-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 163-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 164-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 165-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 166-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 167-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 168-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 169-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 170-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 171-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 172-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 173-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 174-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 175-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 176-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 177-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 178-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 179-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 180-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 181-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 182-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 183-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 184-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 185-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 186-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 187-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 188-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 189-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 190-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 191-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 192-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 193-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 194-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 195-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 196-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 197-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 198-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 199-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 200-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 201-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 202-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 203-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 204-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 205-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 206-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 207-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 208-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 209-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 210-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 211-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 212-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 213-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 214-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 215-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 216-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 217-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 218-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 219-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 220-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 221-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 222-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 223-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 224-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 225-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 226-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 227-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 228-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 229-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 230-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 231-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 232-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 233-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 234-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 235-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 236-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 237-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 238-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 239-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 240-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 241-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 242-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 243-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 244-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 245-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 246-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 247-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 248-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 249-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 250-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 251-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 252-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 253-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 254-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 255-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 256-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 257-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 258-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 259-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 260-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 261-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 262-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 263-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 264-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 265-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 266-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 267-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 268-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 269-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 270-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 271-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 272-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 273-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 274-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 275-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 276-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 277-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 278-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 279-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 280-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 281-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 282-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 283-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 284-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 285-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 286-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 287-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 288-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 289-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 290-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 291-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 292-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 293-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 294-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 295-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 296-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 297-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 298-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 299-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 300-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 301-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 302-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 303-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 304-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 305-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 306-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 307-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 308-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 309-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 310-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 311-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 312-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 313-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 314-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 315-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 316-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 317-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 318-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 319-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 320-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 321-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 322-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 323-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 324-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 325-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 326-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 327-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 328-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 329-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 330-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 331-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 332-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 333-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 334-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 335-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 336-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 337-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 338-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 339-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 340-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 341-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 342-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 343-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 344-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 345-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 346-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 347-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 348-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 349-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 350-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 351-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 352-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 353-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 354-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 355-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 356-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 357-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 358-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 359-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 360-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 361-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 362-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 363-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 364-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 365-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 366-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 367-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 368-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 369-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 370-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 371-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 372-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 373-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 374-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 375-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 376-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 377-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 378-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 379-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 380-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 381-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 382-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 383-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 384-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 385-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 386-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 387-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 388-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 389-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 390-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 391-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 392-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 393-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 394-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 395-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 396-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 397-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 398-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 399-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 400-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 401-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 402-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 403-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 404-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 405-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 406-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 407-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 408-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 409-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 410-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 411-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 412-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 413-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 414-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 415-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 416-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 417-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 418-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 419-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 420-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 421-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 422-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 423-1 Lingusitic Dancer, 424

Iranian is 'close to' Spurs move



Steve Staunton (right) is re-united with Roy Evans, the Liverpool manager, after completing his transfer from Aston Villa to Anfield yesterday

Allsport

FOOTBALL

TOTTENHAM ARE about to sign the Iranian World Cup midfielder Mehdi Mahdavikia, according to the president of the player's club.

Ahmed Abedani, the president of Pirouzi Tehran, said the deal with Spurs was worth more than £2.5m and would be sealed soon. "We hope to have everything finished over the next week," he said. "The only problem is over the length of the contract. We only want Mahdavikia to sign a two-year deal but they want one for four years."

Mahdavikia, 20, the Asian young player of the year, is reported to have attracted the attention of other European clubs, including Borussia Dortmund and Internazionale.

Tottenham have also set their eyes on Patrick Kluivert and reports yesterday suggested the club had agreed a £7.5m deal with Milan for the Netherlands striker.

Earlier this week, Kluivert was reportedly close to signing with Arsenal after the Premier League champions agreed to a £7m deal. "I have to try to leave Italy now. It has not worked out for me at Milan," Kluivert said earlier this week. "I can move from Milan my best choices would be England or Spain."

The two north London clubs could also be in competition to sign another Dutch World Cup player, Ronald de Boer.

De Boer, who missed a penalty in the shoot-out against Brazil, has made no secret of his desire to become a Gunner. However, Arsenal's offer falls short of the £5m Ajax want for

the 28-year-old. "I know they have made one offer which Ajax would not accept. Now I am just hoping Arsenal increase it or that Ajax accept the lower figure," De Boer said.

Marc Overmars yesterday quelled fears that his World Cup injury could spill over into the start of Arsenal's Premiership season. Overmars was forced out of the Netherlands' semi-final against Brazil on Tuesday.

However, the winger said: "I'll be fit in plenty of time for the new season. It started off as a small injury and got worse when I tested it in training for the Argentina game. I was not

quite ready to start that match but the coach sent me on in the last few minutes and the hamstring pulled again. There is a month to go before the start of the season in England and I have no worries about that."

Nottingham Forest have rejoined the race for Norway's World Cup midfielder Roar Strand. The Rosenborg player, who has been tracked by Forest for several months, claims to have discussed personal terms with the Premiership club. However, Rosenborg's £1.5m valuation could prove to be a stumbling block.

Sheffield Wednesday have signed the Brazilian defender Emerson Thomé on a three-year contract.

The Real Madrid coach Jose Antonio Camacho has resigned three weeks after joining the European Cup winners. Camacho is believed to have quit because the club did not appoint Carlos Lorenzana as physical conditioning coach. The pair had worked together at Camacho's previous club, Espanyol.

JOHN GREGORY, the Aston Villa manager, is urging the club's most expensive buy, the striker Stan Collymore, to start making up for "two wasted years of his career" when he reports back early for pre-season training today.

Collymore is effectively in

"The Last Chance Saloon"

after under-achieving both on the pitch and off it. His performances for Villa have failed to justify his price-tag, while he was involved in a much-publicised altercation with his

then-girlfriend, Ulrika Jonsson. In Villa last month.

Gregory's patience is beginning to wear thin and, at the end of last season, Collymore had to sit on the substitute's bench after returning from injury while Dwight Yorke and Julian Joachim occupied up front.

Villa is unlikely to recoup anything like the £7m it paid Liverpool for Collymore, should the Midlands club decide to sell him. But Gregory wants him to show he can be an asset and reproduce the kind of form he

showed at Nottingham Forest and in his first season at Liverpool, which helped to make him an England squad regular.

"Stan showed in patches last season what he can do," Gregory said. "His goal against Atletico Madrid in the UEFA Cup was unbelievable and he did very well when he scored twice against Liverpool. Those are things I've been hanging onto and there is the proof there that he can do the business, but a couple of times a season is not enough.

"I've said before that I'm always willing to put an arm around a player but they've also got to help themselves and meet me half-way. He's now got to show that he wants to be a footballer - or doesn't."

Gregory is at least optimistic that the club's Australian international goalkeeper, Mark Bosnich, will put pen to paper on a new contract by the end of the week. The manager was due to begin talks with Bosnich, whose current deal has only 12 months left to run, yesterday.

Gregory has taken a hard-line approach to any player who might be thinking of cashing in on the Bosnich ruling by waiting until their contract expires, and has given five of the Villa squad in the last year of their contracts until next Wednesday to sign a new deal - or be transfer-listed.

Bosnich's agent, Phil Smith, originally branded Gregory as "silly" for trying to railroad the keeper into signing, but Gregory believes that an agreement can now be reached.

"Bosnich shouldn't be a problem, although we might have to compromise on the length of the contract," Gregory said. "Julian Joachim is 23 and was happy to commit himself to Villa for another five years. Mark has been here for six years already and he might want something shorter."

Gregory is also planning talks with Mark Draper, Riccardo Scimeca and Gary Charles - the other three players who are entering the last 12 months of their contract.

Collymore must prove his worth

No golden start for Bubka

ATHLETICS

By MIKE ROWBOTTOM

SERGEI BUBKA, the six-times world pole vault champion, was an early casualty in Oslo yesterday in the race for the new Golden League \$1m jackpot.

The money will be shared among athletes winning each of their events in each of the six International Amateur Athletic Federation Ericsson Golden League meetings plus the final in Moscow on 5th September.

Bubka failed to clear his opening height of 5.80 metres at the Bislett Games, the opening meeting of the series. "My only comment is 'no comment,'" he said before leaving the stadium.

BBC television will broadcast live what is considered the greatest athletics meeting in the world - the Weltklasse in

Zurich on 12th August. The Zurich event is the fourth stop on the newly created League. Devised by the IAAF president, Primo Nebiolo, to increase the profile of international athletics competition, it has run into problems selling its television rights to the European cable company, Canal Plus, who have been unhappy about the fact that their package does not have a natural conclusion, as it does not include the grand prix final.

Complications in the negotiations meant that no arrangements were made to televise the Oslo meeting in Britain for what was the first time in 20 years. In that context, the BBC's intervention will be especially welcome to athletics followers in Britain.

Andreas Brugger, Zurich's meeting director, said: "It is great to have BBC television

back. I hope the contract will be extended to last for a few years.

In the early days they were great supporters of the meeting and the television station I believe must cover our event."

BBC stopped covering Zurich when commercial stations gained a monopoly of the now discontinued "Golden Four" Series of events in 1995.

But the innovative IAAF Ericsson Golden League has given it the opportunity to resume a great deal of amateur athletics coverage."

The world's best athletes will compete for more than \$7m (£4m) in prize-money in the new competition.

Doug Walker, one of Britain's successes of the European Cup, is set to take on the might of the country's top 400m men. The 24-year-old Edinburgh-based Scot, who won over 200m

at the Bislett Games, will be looking for a second title in Bislett Games.

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Tomlinson, 21, has signed a two-year contract with the BBC, the first of which runs from April to September.

He said: "It is great to have BBC television back. I hope the contract will be extended to last for a few years.

The England Under-18 side is competing in the European Championships from 2nd to 4th August, in Amsterdam.

England Under-18s coach, Lee Scott, said: "It is a great opportunity for our young athletes."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Second XI Chris Tomlinson, the BBC's chief commentator, said: "The Bislett Games is a great meeting for amateur athletics."

Zidane can lead the new deconstructionists

THERE WAS a Frenchman, an Englishman, an Italian woman, and an Iranian woman... It sounds if it could be funny. Believe me, it wasn't. I was that Englishman. And setting aside that night I spent on the floor of a public convenience in Nevers in the summer of '98, this was probably the most uncomfortable 45 minutes of my life.

What made this particular evening so painful? Set aside the inevitable *Beauty and the Beast* scenario of sultry Italian absolutely all over sallow, sulky, insipid French guy with extremely large nose. That goes without saying. But have you ever been trying to watch your favourite television programme of the week when one of your friends, who has zero appreciation of the intricacies of "Star Trek" or "The Flintstones", chooses this time to drop by and sits down next to you?



ANDY MARTIN
AT LARGE IN
FRANCE



So it was during the first half of the France-Croatia game, spent in some smoky dive near the waterfront in Marseilles before I eventually did a runner. The Italian woman wanted Croatia to win because France had beaten Italy; as did the Iranian woman, on account of Croatia having beaten Germany who had beaten Iran. I, on the other hand, was broadly pro-

But Claude? He had his back stiffly to the screen and his Cyrano de Bergerac nose in the air taking no notice either of the match or even of the Italian pawing him passionately.

In the man's defence, let it be said that the first half was not a classic. But even had it been an all-time great game, it wouldn't have made a blind bit of difference to this lad.

I must have known 100 Claudes

over the ages. He is one of these staunchly anti-football types who have been writing letters to *Le Monde* scolding it for caving in and reporting a capitalist perversion/barbarian threat to civilisation (even if that newspaper has compromised by being always half-heartedly 48 hours or so behind the results). He is a high culture man - a student of sciences humaines at the University of Provence in Aix (where the two women were studying *lettres modernes*) - who looks on the game with all the enthusiasm of an ancien regime aristocrat eyeing a rabble kicking a guillotined head around.

Funnily enough, that's just what they were doing all around the Vieux Port later that night. Well, almost. I had a strange sense of déjà vu as the innumerable masses gathered again as they had a few

weeks ago for the England-Tunisia game. Except that this time there were (so far as I know) no hooligans and no police charges and no tear gas grenades going off. Only thousands of people yelling and singing and mambos-ing and waving flags and climbing up lamp-posts, and cars parping their horns, and motorbikes and scooters screaming up and down the main drag.

The quartiers had come to the city to party. Even though the mob didn't actually do anything nasty to Claude (more's the pity), it was still a minor revolution, another *Liberation*.

"On a gagné, ils ont perdu" (we have won, they have lost) was about the only coherent sentence I heard after 11pm. But the "on" and the "ils" in this case should not be naively equated with France and Croatia. This was a "historic" night - as everyone has been saying - not so

much because the French team has made it to the World Cup finals for the first time, but because the balance has shifted in an ongoing cultural civil war which goes back a couple of centuries or more.

Football has become a symbol of the popular culture openly despised by the political establishment.

rooted in the ironic, smart, effete intelligentsia of the grandes écoles of Paris, fixated to the point of over-

dose and hallucination with its own

language, literature and history.

Football is a window out on to an

other world.

Where Jean-Jacques Rousseau, the Surrealists, and Jacques Derrida had a crack at deconstructing French culture and failed (because in the end they were only writers), maybe Lilian Thuram and Zinedine Zidane will be more successful.

When Iran qualified for the World Cup, as Nagine (the Iranian woman) recalled, the ayatollahs had ease up on their traditional denunciation of football as some kind of false idol on the grounds that Mohammed didn't play and it isn't in the Koran.

France, now it has got into the final, is like a more secular Iran. Football used to belong to those isolated islands of counter-culture such as Marseilles, St Etienne etc. Now France is having to modify its mythology and re-think itself as a serious football-playing nation.

President Chirac, who claims to have wanted to be a goalkeeper, was a second behind Michel Platini in jumping to his feet when France scored the winner on Wednesday. But he did definitely raise a cheer. The high priests are having to accommodate the new anti-cartesian tendency, "I play therefore I am."

'Little Ant's' empire built on hard work

Zagallo is the Brazilian coach whose decision to tamper with tradition is about to be rewarded. By Ken Jones

IT IS no exaggeration to suggest that victory over France in Paris on Sunday would put Brazil's elderly coach, Mario Zagallo, beyond emulation as the most remarkable figure in World Cup history.

No body is about to include Zagallo among the most gifted performers to represent the game's most successful and emotive national team, but, if a second victory as coach is added to those Zagallo achieved as a player in 1958 and 1962, even the most vehemently damning of some compatriots (including Pele) will be obliged to recognise the full extent of his influence.

Watching this shortish, slight figure running a hand through the remaining strands of his white hair, then removing spectacles to brush away the tears after Brazil qualified for the final from a penalty shoot-out against the Netherlands in Marseilles, you could not help wondering what was going through his mind.

Back perhaps, to 16 July 1950 when, as a teenage captain in soldier's uniform, he gazed at the new wonder of Maracana before enduring the disappointment of a defeat by Uruguay that prevented Brazil from winning their first World Cup.

Zagallo's unwavering philosophy, one that requires the conversion of individualism to a collective purpose, was probably formed from an experience so shocking for the Brazilian nation that many suicides were reported. "To lose that game when we were the best team in the competition, with such a player as Zizinho [Pele's all-time favourite] and home advantage taught me that ability is not enough in football," Zagallo once said when we shared a taxi from the Football Association offices in London.

By then Zagallo, who was on his way to work in Kuwait, had

become the first in history to win the World Cup as a player and coach, a record later equalled by Franz Beckenbauer when West Germany overcame Argentina in the 1990 final.

Zagallo's inclusion in Brazil's squad for the 1958 final in Sweden was not greeted with much enthusiasm. But if Zagallo could not match the virtuosity of Didi, Garrincha and, of course, Pele, whose unsurpassable gifts were about to be revealed, his play had the merit of conviction and unflapping industry.

Zagallo's sobriquet "The Little Ant" was perfect in description. A worker, scurrying between attack and defence on Brazil's left-wing, his natural persistence and sense of responsibility gave birth to the 4-3-3 formation he would employ in 1970 when given charge of that superlative group of footballers who swept to an impious triumph in the finals in Mexico.

The circumstances surrounding Zagallo's appointment for that tournament and the galaxy of talent available caused many in Brazil to question his contribution. Some felt that he had merely inherited an unbeatable team from Joao Saldanha, a political activist and former player whose criticism by the press and across the airwaves had helped to bring about his appointment as national coach. When Saldanha went too far in resistance to meddling by the right-wing authority, he was replaced by Zagallo barely two months before the finals in Mexico.

The romance of Saldanha's preferred 4-3-4 became Zagallo's appointment for that tournament and the galaxy of talent available caused many in Brazil to question his contribution. Some felt that he had merely inherited an unbeatable team from Joao Saldanha, a political activist and former player whose criticism by the press and across the airwaves had helped to bring about his appointment as national coach. When Saldanha went too far in resistance to meddling by the right-wing authority, he was replaced by Zagallo barely two months before the finals in Mexico.

By then Zagallo, who was on

his way to work in Kuwait, had



Mario Zagallo: "We are not where we are in football history just because we have produced great players" Reuters

blamed for a style that contradicted Brazil's footballing traditions.

Even now, with Brazil through to their sixth appearance in the finals and heavily fancied to overcome the hosts, Zagallo comes under fire, although less is made of Zico's appointment as technical co-

ordinator, made in what appeared to be haste after an embarrassing loss to the United States earlier this year.

Zagallo's quiet assertion that it is his team, his strategy, is unchallenged. "Football has changed in many ways," he said during the early stages of these finals. "There are many

influences we did not have even just 10 years ago. But, in any case, Brazil are not where they are in football history simply because our culture has produced so many outstanding players. Pele was a great worker for the team, always running in the field, trying to make things happen.

This is true of all really great players."

Zagallo's team is not short of the ability to adorn Sunday's final with flourishes for which Brazilian football is famous, but it is the work ethic that will figure most prominently when the "Little Ant" gives his final briefing.

Frances defensive mid-fielder Christian Karembeu is

a doubtful starter for Sunday's final against Brazil because of a strained left ankle, a team spokesman said yesterday.

Karembeu sustained the injury in Wednesday's 2-1 victory over Croatia in the semi-final. He had to be substituted in the 31st minute.

Blanc looks follow dirty tricks

STAN HEY
VIEW FROM THE ARMCHAIR



IT'S GOT to stop. All the play acting and dirty tricks designed to weaken and demoralise your opponents came to a head during the semi-finals, as we knew it would with the ultimate prize awaiting. But that's no excuse for bad behaviour and underhand tactics. Though I don't like singling out individuals for blame since both sides have been as calculating as each other, I have no hesitation in naming and shaming those who have brought the game into disrepute with their antics - BBC and ITV Sport.

It's been bad enough with what the players have been getting up to without the broadcasters becoming involved, but now that they are competing in the final on Sunday, anything goes. Even the BBC's continuity announcer got into the act before the start of Wednesday night's semi-final between France and Croatia: "And now it's time for the footy here on the good old BBC," he cooed before emphasising that it was "Live, UNINTERRUPTED play!"

This is spin-speak for "we don't have silly adverts getting in the way of our broadcasts, you know". But what the announcer did not say was that the coverage would be interrupted instead by the midweek National Lottery draw, an event as inane as any of the Vauxhall adverts on the other side.

The BBC's black propaganda continued almost immediately, with Gary Lineker and Mark Lawson expressing the hope that tonight's game would be better than the 1-1 draw between the Netherlands and Brazil, the subliminal message being that had been

must have won a share of the half-time lottery because the team came out with what you could once call "gay abandon", and scored within 30 seconds. But they then forgot that France had restarted the game and conceded a soft equaliser. Even O'Neill could not have guessed that this goal would come from a man called Lilian Thuram, nor that he would get another soon afterward.

Against their worst expectations, the BBC now have a game on their hands and John Motson increased his decibel level as the Croats sought an equaliser. "Goran Vlaovic could have made a real name for himself there!" Moty screamed, while fans of the programme *Countdown* immediately picked up their pad and pencil to work out what it might be - five vowels, and seven consonants? Tricky.

Meanwhile, Trevor Brooking, who had been rather sidelined by the non-event first half, finally got himself a much sought-after talking point when

Croatia's Slaven Bilic, lawyer and newspaper columnist, revealed another talent - soap opera acting. Bilic had already been glimpsed earlier in a slow motion replay, practising on Emmanuel Petit some of the dialogue he had picked up in his year on Merseyside. "Off you French ***er!" he said in a style that should soon get him a part in *Brookside*.

But now, thanks to Bilic, it was another Fransie player who was sent off: the inimitable Laurent Blanc. There was general sympathy for Blanc afterwards and some fairly fierce condemnation of Bilic from both Ally McCoist and Alan Hansen.

"I'm embarrassed for him watching that," McCoist said with a shake of the head, leaving no doubt that the refereeing regime instituted by Fifa had now become a source of exploitation for the more cynical players. But nobody suggested that Fifa, who had increased the suspensions on the likes of Zinedine Zidane and David

Beckham based on video evidence, should use the same medium to acquit the innocent. This may be one issue best left to *The Moral Maze*.

Despite the BBC panel's sudden outbreak of sanctimony, it didn't stop Des performing his usual shirt-pull on ITV. Having set up the prospects for a France-Brazil final - and my friend Gloomy Jim points out that neither side had to qualify for this tournament - Des went straight for the jugular by staring straight down the lens. Summoning his best Sainsbury's commercial voice he said: "Being the good judges that you are, I know where you're going to watch it."

The BBC needs to preserve its audience share for the final, not just to justify the licence fee but also to boost the morale of its under-funded sports department. Meanwhile, ITV, having delivered a huge audience to advertisers for the England-Argentina game, needs to maintain that momentum. So don't rule out a dirty final.

THE GLOBAL GAME

THE WORLD CUP AROUND THE WORLD

they blew it seconds later when the captain, Zvonimir Boban, lost a ball on the edge of the area for Lilian Thuram's equaliser.

Most newspapers named Thuram as the man of the match. "Lilian Thuram - a narrow line between a hero and a loser," said *Vjesnik*, recalling Suker had scored after an attempted offside trap failed because Thuram stayed back.

In France, the hosts' unprecedented success dominated news programmes and covered the front pages of daily newspapers. "The Dream Final" said *Liberation* above a photo of ecstatic French players climbing over Thuram. "The current world champions are the last obstacle to France's nirvana."

Another paper, *Le Parisien*, splashed: "Thuram, Thuram" across its front page. Inside it wrote: "A statue of Lilian Thuram right away. Last night, he was immense."

By tinkering we've created a cheats' charter

I WAS expecting big things from France in their semi-final against Croatia but I was disappointed with the way they played. My tip at the start of the tournament, I am sticking with them to come through and win on Sunday – although I fear for them against Brazil. It will be a very difficult contest for the host nation.

They started Wednesday's game looking bright, playing with enthusiasm and a lot of pace but not really creating chances. The longer it went on the more France seemed to get frustrated by the Croatians, who were playing a crafty game – and a cagey game – only throwing players forward when they had control of the situation.

I was concerned for French hopes when Croatia took the lead, because their initial pace had dropped and they were not making much progress.



JACK CHARLTON

It's amazing that in both semi-finals, goals were scored within the first minute of the second half. Nothing is more guaranteed to have a coach tearing his hair out. The last thing you say to your team, both before the start of the game and again

at half-time, is to maintain concentration and to let the game settle down before attempting anything too ambitious.

Another unwritten rule is to keep things tight immediately after you've scored, but Croatia were badly caught out almost as soon as they went in front. Zvonimir Boban was robbed while in possession, enabling Lilian Thuram to play a one-two with Youri Djorkaeff and move into position for the shot which gave France their equaliser.

I wouldn't necessarily criticise Boban because, like all continental players in that area of the field, he is not expecting any pressure on the ball. When these guys are performing before a worldwide audience, the last thing they want to do is bump the ball up the field. Boban wanted to play the ball out of defence in his

own time. With Ireland we always found a lot of joy from pressurising players in that situation, because they just weren't prepared for it.

It proved to be a wonderful night for Thuram, but from a defensive point of view I thought he was found wanting. Apart from the Croatian goal, when he was going backwards as the rest of the defence were coming out, there were one or two other promising moments for Croatia that came from his area of the field.

The sending-off was a bitter blow for France because Laurent Blanc is a very dependable, experienced defender. He may not have intended to make contact with Slaven Bilic, he just swung out a hand in frustration because the Croatian was pulling his shirt and giving him all sorts of trouble. Then Bilic goes down, not as if

someone has put a hand on his chin, but as though he's been hit over the head by an anvil.

By tinkering again with the rules and banning the tackle from behind we have created a charter for cheats. When you stop players and coaches from doing something, they will come up with something else. I'm certain the coaches have a responsibility for what has been going on in France, they will be saying to their players: "if you feel yourself touched, go down, if you are about to be tackled make sure you don't jump over the challenge".

I thought the referee was awful on Wednesday night and I have great fears for Sunday's final. Fifa has put the Moroccan, Said Belgola, in charge and we can only hope that he controls the game the way he thinks it should be handled, and not

the way he thinks Mr Blatter, Mr Platini and the other Fifa officials want it to be refereed, because that would be to knock it. It is the biggest game in the world and we don't want it ruined.

Hopefully we will get the open, attacking game that is promised. If you were to ask me in what areas France could take advantage of Brazil, I would have to say there aren't any. Brazil looked uncomfortable when the Netherlands were putting in crosses from wide positions, but France haven't got anyone to do that and they still haven't found anyone to really fire the attack.

It's difficult for their forwards when they have someone like Zinedine Zidane running all over the place and I wouldn't be surprised if the front players are getting a little mixed up. They have some good

players in the advanced positions, but they probably won't be seen at their best until they use Zidane as a mid-fielder and not a forward-runner.

France are fortunate that they have a defender as accomplished as Franck Leboeuf to replace Blanc. The Chelsea man is a good header of the ball, reads the game well and will slot in without any problem. I would like to see him a bit stronger in the tackle, but in the modern era there seems to be a greater requirement on central defenders to be able to play.

Before this week's games I would have said France had better teamwork than the Brazilians but now I am not so sure. They got pulled about by the Croatians and that is a worrying sign. Still, as their great moment beckons, I am not about to desert them.

The ultimate honour: French coach earns an apology from biggest critics as he creates history

Jacquet wins 'grudge' match

BY JOHN LICHFIELD
in Clairefontaine

HUMBLE PIE was served with champagne at Clairefontaine yesterday.

The French coach, Aimé Jacquet, is a gentle, professorial man but, like most academics, he finds few things more nourishing than a grudge.

Monsieur Jacquet has been the butt of press and public scorn for months ("the wrong squad; the wrong tactics; the wrong manager"). The day after France reached the World Cup final for the first time, he could not resist a little mocking triumphalism.

Speaking at his team's retreat in the Forest of Rambouillet, he dedicated the French semi-final victory over Croatia to a whole list of people, including "those people who believed in us... and those journalists who did their job correctly and honestly."

LEquipe, the great French sports daily which led the anti-Jacquet charge, pre-empted him yesterday with a front-page apology – or partial apology. Under the banner headline "Héroïc", the newspaper said it clung to the view that Jacquet had made many mistakes but it must now admit that he had "brought an exceptional team to the highest level in his own way."

The France team – more relaxed than at any time since the tournament started – chatted amiably to the assembled French and foreign press for two hours, despite hardly having slept after the semi-final victory. Officials of the French football federation broke out the France 98 branded champagne for the first time. The press open day turned into a garden party in the stunning grounds of the Domaine de Montjole, a château converted ten years ago into the National Technical Centre for Football.

Judging by the mood at Clairefontaine, or the crazy celebrations in Paris and other French towns on Wednesday night, one might think that France had already won the World Cup, or that it did not matter to Jacquet and his men what happened in the final on Sunday. Wrong, said Jacquet.

"I have not yet absorbed entirely the fact that we are in the World Cup Final, something which we have longed for and planned for over so many months. To be honest, I am still a little out on my feet... but don't be fooled by the celebrations in Paris into thinking that we have done our job. Anybody who thinks that doesn't know my guts..."

Jacquet admitted that the Croatia game – even before the sending off of Laurent Blanc – had been the most difficult of the tournament. "In every other match, we have been the



Aimé Jacquet has got to grips with his detractors in the media after his controversial team selections, which have taken France to the World Cup final

master of the game throughout. Croats succeeded in putting us into difficulties, in making us forget what we wanted to do."

He described the instant equalising goal by the right full-back Lilian Thuram as "providential".

Thuram, one of the quietest members of the France squad, was the main attraction at Clairefontaine yesterday. After 31 matches in the French colours without a single goal, he scored twice in 23 minutes, including one from a thunderous shot with his left foot.

"Usually when I hit anything with my left foot, it goes over the stand. Marcel Desailly constantly kept coming over to me after the second goal and asking: 'What's got into you?'. I just said: 'I don't know. When the final whistle went, I was astonished. I couldn't believe that the game was over and we had won. It was more emotion than I could cope with."

Thuram, a bookish-looking young man in metal-rimmed spectacles, had to choose as a teenager between becoming a footballer and becoming a priest. Perhaps that is what

Jacquet meant when coming out with his description of all that important goal.

The Parma player – who was voted the best foreign defender in Serie A – denied suggestions that he had been stung into scoring by his mistake in letting in Davor Suker to put Croatia ahead in the first minute of the second half.

"I don't accept it was my fault. It was a general mistake of covering on the defence... but it's true that, when that goal went in, I said to myself: 'It can't happen like this. We

can't lose. I've got to do something'. And then I found myself in the penalty area, with the ball at my feet."

Thuram, 27, said the France-Brazil final was "the kind of game you dream of... it's the kind of game where you want to take pleasure from living every kick, every ball."

"When I was a kid we played the World Cup final over and over on the playground and it was always France versus Brazil. I usually played for Brazil."

Asked if he believed France could

win, Thuram said: "Yes, because we will be living and touching our dreams. Not everyone has a chance in their lives to do that. If we can take energy from the crowd, in communion with the whole nation, and surpass ourselves, we can win. It is that capacity to surpass yourself which is the most beautiful thing in sport."

When the young Lilian Thuram made his choice of career it would appear that France gained a brilliant footballer but Rome lost a rather eloquent priest.

Leboeuf ready for his toughest test yet

FRANCK LEBOEUF is one game away from becoming a World Cup winner: Chelsea's cultured central defender will be drafted in to play on the biggest stage of all after the first-choice French sweeper Laurent Blanc was sent off against Croatia in Wednesday's World Cup semi-final.

Leboeuf will line up alongside his new Stamford Bridge team-mate, Marcel Desailly, as *Les Bleus* bid for glory against the Boys from Brazil in Sunday's World Cup final. While Leboeuf has acquired a reputation as a thinking man's footballer, he admitted that anything will go against Ronaldo and Co on Sunday.

"I don't want to imagine what I will do to stop him," said Leboeuf, before smiling broadly. He added that he would not allow fears about the world's greatest player to undermine him in the next few days. "I cannot afford to think about Ronaldo. I just have to think about

my football and the way we will play," he said. "You don't mark a man thinking he's Ronaldo, with all that it means. You just have to try to do it. I'm not worried about him and you can't just try to stop Ronaldo because we know we have to stop Rivaldo, Bebe, maybe Demilson as well."

"But I'm very confident because I'm sure we can beat Brazil. We just have to be very tuned in. It means it will make it an unbelievable game for me. It could be the happiest moment in my life – but it could also be the saddest. We will have to wait and see, but I'm sure we'll be ready."

Leboeuf is the beneficiary of Blanc's misfortune and the acting skills of Everton defender Slaven Bilic, proving he can turn a pin-prick into the stuff of high tragedy. And Leboeuf admitted he had to contend with very mixed emotions, saying: "I'm very sad for Laurent but that's

life, football life anyway. And from my point of view I will be playing in the World Cup final, so I have to be happy with that."

"I've not spoken much to him yet. There are times when it's better to keep silent. What can I say to him? I'm sure he's sad. I feel really sorry for him but really happy for myself."

"You can't think about the player who was sent off, or even really think about yourself. You just have to tell yourself to get on the pitch and be ready mentally to play well."

"As soon as I saw the red card for Laurent I knew what it meant for me. I told myself that it was unbearable." But not, he revealed, entirely unexpected.

"I just knew it was going to happen," he explained. "Three friends of mine told me they had all dreamed about the final and that they had seen me playing in the game. Now I know it wasn't them dreaming – it was them

seeing the reality." A premonition that will change Leboeuf's life.

The coach, Aimé Jacquet, said he was confident that Leboeuf could fulfil the breach and explained: "He has worked hard on the training ground and prepared well, just as hard as the players who were playing."

"That is a great bonus and we know that when he goes out to play on Sunday he will be calm and composed, not let the occasion get to him, just get on with it."

Warren earns final accolade

AN ENGLISHMAN, Mark Warren, will run the line at Sunday's World Cup final between Brazil and France. The match at the Stade de France in St Denis will be refereed by the Moroccan official, Said Belgola.

Warren was the assistant referee for the quarter-final between Italy and France. The other linesman on Sunday will be Achmat Sallie from South Africa.

Belgola, a 41-year-old customs inspector, was in charge of the Germany against United States match on 15 June as well as the group match between Argentina and Croatia in Bordeaux.

Belgola has been on the League's list since the 1991-92 season. Warren ran the line in the 1997 Coca-Cola Cup final between Leicester City and Middlesbrough at Wembley, and the replay at Hillsborough. He will referee his first Football League game on the opening day of the 1998-99 Nationwide season on 8 August. He was an assistant referee at this year's African Nations' Cup finals in Burkina Faso.

For those of us in the trade, it can be a difficult task persuading friends and family that covering something like a World Cup under a relentless French sun while having to put up with the local cuisine is nothing short of hard labour. So it comes as no surprise to us to learn that the medical centres at France 98 have received regular visits from hard-pressed and over-worked journalists. No fewer than 700 reporters have reported sick during the tournament.

Nor is it easy being a socialist and a keen follower of the World Cup. Your heart might beat in step with the Samba, you might well marvel at the breathtaking acceleration of Ronaldo, but you just can't ignore the political truth that the Brazilian government does not always look kindly on left-wingers (and this despite the profusion of left-sided attacking players in Mario Zagallo's team). Or you might believe that the host nation deserves to win its own World Cup, that Zinedine Zidane is without peer as a creative midfield player, that Didier Deschamps has raised the stock of the water-carrier worldwide, only for your fervour to be cooled by that country's racist elements and the French National Front. "The tournament has provoked much argument that has gone beyond footballing merits," said Keith Flett, editor of the Socialist Footballer. "By the second-round phase 80 per cent of us were cheering for France as a country with a left-of-centre government which, while far from ideal, is several pitches ahead of Blair's New Labour. The rest at that stage were split between Brazil, England and those who thought the whole thing was a bourgeois diversion once Scotland went out. Now it's a toss-up between Brazil and France and I wouldn't like to say how it's going to go."

Compiled by Trevor Haylett



Leboeuf: Knew he would play

seeing the reality."

The coach, Aimé Jacquet, said he was confident that Leboeuf could fulfil the breach and explained: "He has worked hard on the training ground and prepared well, just as hard as the players who were playing."

"That is a great bonus and we know that when he goes out to play on Sunday he will be calm and composed, not let the occasion get to him, just get on with it."

French lesson: With Laurent Blanc unjustly banned from the final, Fifa must accept the need for video evidence

Decency of the game dragged into the gutter

BY GLENN MOORE
in Paris

THE BUTCHERS have been consigned to the scrapheap of history, now it is time for Fifa to turn on the cheats. Less physically damaging, but just as morally debilitating, the likes of Lorenzo Staelens, Diego Simeone, Davor Suker and, now, Slaven Bilic, have disfigured a World Cup generally regarded as enterprising and honest. The decency of the game is at stake and it will require more than a Fifa directive to save it, it needs a fundamental overhaul in disciplinary practice and philosophy.

The behaviour of Bilic is indicative of the malaise that threatens the game. This urbane, educated man was a central figure in the most cynical of the tournament and, on Wednesday night, proved one of the most convincing "fouls".

Yesterday a wave of criticism fell upon the Croat, though not as much in France as in England, where such behaviour is especially frowned upon. But, apart from a sullied public image – which is unlikely to concern such a strong-minded individual – he will suffer no further punishment. Meanwhile, Laurent Blanc, who was foolish but not malicious, must miss out on the pinnacle of any footballer's career. At 32, he knows he will never get the chance again.

Blanc, having been daft enough to raise his hands to an opponent, has no opportunity to appeal. Like David Beckham, he will long rue his misjudgement. But Bilic should not escape.

This is the most televised event in history, dozens of cameras capture every incident, the tapes are then watched repeatedly by Fifa's technical committee as it searches for trends and patterns in the sport. However, only in exceptional cir-

cumstances does Fifa's disciplinary committee watch the same videos.

This is anachronistic and negligent. As in rugby league it should watch the games and administer justice on the evidence. This is not undermining the referee, no one can be expected to see everything that goes on between 22 men on a pitch measuring 7,500 square yards. Referees are undermined when their inevitable errors lead to injustice. If Staelens, who took a dive when Patrick Kluivert pushed his arm into the Belgian's chest, had been suspended instead of the Dutchman, Bilic may have thought twice about his actions.

One of the problems is the finality of a red card and the difficulty for referees to balance the pressure to use it with the need to prevent matches becoming eight-a-side. It is time for Fifa to experiment with a sin-bin, as in hockey and rugby league, in which a player is sent off for a discretionary period. This would allow some leeway when an offence is more than a yellow but not quite a red. It would also create the excitement of a "power-play" with spectators counting down the period in which a team is short-handed.

Another problem is the degree of contact now common in penalty areas before set-pieces. The German-Croat game, as Bilic admitted, saw far worse encounters than the Blanc incident. At times it was a wrestling match. Shirt-pulling and holding have become such standard defensive procedure players seem shocked when they are penalised. Referees now appear to let all but the most blatant examples go, with the inevitable consequence that it will become endemic at every level. If it were not for the loss of income from the sales of replica shirts teams might even consider playing in "skins".

If there were to be a crackdown on this, there would be several months during which penalties would be awarded on a staggering scale with protests to match. But, eventually, defenders would learn to keep their hands to themselves just as they are learning to stay on their feet in the tackle.

More penalties, sin-binned players, less holding and pulling, all this would lead to more goals, which would both increase excitement and decrease the impact of a single refereeing error. Obviously, no one wants football to be like basketball but a few more 4-3s would be better than 1-0s.

Blanc yesterday argued for former players to become referees. An ex-player may well have realised what was going on in the Croatian penalty area on Wednesday night but, to judge by Steve Baines in England, this would result in leniency. Not that it matters. Few ex-players would be interested, they would certainly not be in it for the money.

So far the refereeing in this tournament has been both impressive and confused. Most referees have been very good at spotting fouls, the problem is in the punishment. Some give cards for tackles from behind, some do not. While Beckham and Blanc were sent-off for relatively little taping, Dennis Bergkamp escaped trampling on Sinisa Mihajlovic and Stephane Guivarc' survived elbowing Fabio Cannavaro.

In a human game inconsistency is inevitable and players, who call for referees to be allowed to apply common sense rather than rule by dictat, cannot have it both ways. It is to be hoped Sunday's final will not be decided by a refereeing error or a cheat. In appointing, possibly for political reasons, a referee (Morocco's Said Belqali) with no experience of the European game, where almost every significant footballer plays, Fifa has taken a risk.



The French defender, Laurent Blanc, is horrified by the referee's verdict after Wednesday's clash with Slaven Bilic Allsport

THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO FRANCE 98

THE FINAL STAGES																														
SECOND ROUND				QUARTER-FINALS				SEMI-FINALS				FINAL																		
Brazil 4 Chile 1 Cesar Sampayo 11, 27 Ronald 45, 70 Salas 68				Brazil 3 Denmark 2 Bebe 11 Rhudo 26, 60 Jorgensen 2 B Laerdup 50				Netherlands 1 Brazil 1 Brazil win 4-3 on penalties Kluivert 87 Ronson 90				Sunday 12 July 8pm St Denis Brazil v France																		
Nigeria 1 Denmark 4 Babangida 77 Moller 3, 8, Lawrin 12, Sand 59, Helve 76 Toulouse				Netherlands 2 Yugoslavia 1 Bergkamp 38 David 90 Komljenovic 49				Netherlands 2 Argentina 1 Kluivert 12 Bergkamp 90 Lopez 18				St Denis France 0 France 0 France win 4-3 on penalties																		
Argentina 2 England 2 Argentine win 4-3 on penalties Batista pen 6 Zanetti 45 Shear pen 10 Owen 16				Italy 1 Norway 0 Vieri 18				St Denis Italy 0 France 0 France win 4-3 on penalties				St Denis France 2 Croatia 1 Thuram 47, 70 Suter 90																		
Italy 1 Paraguay 0 Blas 114 Golden goal in extra time Montpellier				Germany 2 Mexico 1 Kinsmann 47 Bierhoff 87 Hernandez 46				Lyons Germany 0 Croatia 3 Jarni 45, Vujovic 80, Suter 85				Paris Saturday 11 July 8pm Netherlands v Croatia																		
Romania 0 Croatia 1 Sulcer pen 45																														
GROUP STAGES																														
Group A				Group C				Group E				Group G																		
P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	GD	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	GD	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	GD							
1	Brazil	3	2	0	1	6	3	6	+	1	France	3	3	0	0	9	1	9	+	8	5	1	0	4	2	7	+2			
2	Norway	3	1	2	0	5	4	5	+	2	Denmark	3	1	1	1	3	3	4	0	0	1	France	3	3	0	0	9	0		
3	Morocco	3	1	1	1	5	5	4	0	3	Africa	3	0	2	1	3	6	2	-3	0	1	5	1	0	4	2	7	+2		
4	Scotland	3	0	1	2	2	6	1	-4	4	Arabia	3	0	1	2	2	7	1	-5	0	1	5	2	1	3	3	-2			
Group B				Group D				Group F				Group H																		
P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	GD	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	GD	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	GD							
1	Italy	3	2	1	0	7	3	7	+	2	Chile	2	1	0	1	5	5	6	0	1	Paraguay	3	2	0	1	5	4	8	+7	
2	Chile	3	0	3	0	4	4	3	0	2	Cameroun	1	Austria	1	1	0	3	1	5	2	2	Yugoslavia	3	2	1	0	4	2	6	+2
3	Austria	3	0	2	1	3	4	2	-1	3	Spain	3	1	1	1	8	4	4	+	4	3	Iran	3	1	0	2	3	9	3	-6
4	Cameroon	3	0	2	1	2	5	2	-3	4	Bulgaria	3	0	1	2	1	7	1	-6	0	4	USA	3	0	0	3	1	4	0	-3

STATISTICS

5 THE NUMBER of times the host nation has won the World Cup. The last was Argentina in 1978.

11 THE MOST goals a country has conceded when winning the World Cup – West Germany in 1954.

14 THE AVERAGE number of shots on target per game during the tournament – 869 in 62 matches.

8 THE NUMBER of World Cup finals between a South American team and a European team.

4 Brazil have played against European teams – 1958, 1962, 1970 and 1994.

4 THE NUMBER of times Brazil have beaten European teams in the final.

TEAM OF THE DAY

THE BAD BOYS' XI
 A team of World Cup players chosen for their tendency to indulge in habitual fouling – or their occasional tendency to fall over without much provocation

Edwin van der Sar (Neth)

Rigobert Song (Cam)

Jose Chamot (Arg)

Slaven Bilic (Croatia)

Lorenzo Staelens (Bel)

Ajose Asanovic (Croat)

Diego Simeone (Arg)

Thomas Hässler (Ger)

Ariel Ortega (Arg)

Dennis Bergkamp (Neth)

Davor Suker (Croat)

Argentina 1 Japan 0

Jamaica 1 Croatia 3

Japan 0 Croatia 1

Argentina 1 Jamaica 0

Japan 1 Jamaica 2

Colombia 1 Tunisia 0

Romania 1 Tunisia 0

Colombia 2 England 1

Romania 1 Tunisia 1

Colombia 0 England 2

England 2 Tunisia 0

Romania 1 Colombia 0

Colombia 1 Tunisia 0

Romania 2 England 1

Romania 1 Tunisia 1

Colombia 0 England 2

Argentina 1 Croatia 0

Japan 1 Jamaica 2

Argentina 1 Croatia 0

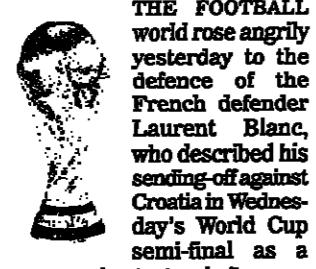
Japan 1 Jamaica 2

SPORT

BRAZIL'S LITTLE ANT ON TOP OF HEAP P29 • TOURMINATOR SADDLES UP P24

Red card rage: Football world unites to defend unlucky French defender as criticism mounts of Croat's conduct

Blanc banned but Bilic cast as the villain

BY JOHN LICHFIELD
in Clarefontaine

THE FOOTBALL world rose angrily yesterday to the defence of the French defender Laurent Blanc, who described his sending-off against Croatia in Wednesday's World Cup semi-final as a "personal catastrophe".

Fifa, world football's ruling body, peremptorily rejected a formal French appeal against the dismissal, despite the almost unanimous view of neutral commentators that Blanc was the victim of a piece of outrageous play-acting by Croatia's Everton stopper Slaven Bilic.

The cultured Marseilles defender, never previously sent off in 70 international matches, will miss the World Cup final against Brazil on Sunday. His place will be taken by the Chelsea centre-back, Frank Leboeuf.

Blanc's sending-off, when Bilic sank to the ground as if shot during a piece of jockeying for position in the penalty area, brought to a head the growing anxieties about refereeing decisions in France '98. It also cast new doubts on the intrusive role of the Fifa president, Sepp Blatter, who had previously criticised Wednesday's referee for failing to send off Dennis Bergkamp in the Dutch match against Yugoslavia.

Senior Jose Garcia Aranda from Spain showed Blanc the red card after he pushed and handed off Bilic as France prepared to take a free-kick in the 74th minute of the semi-final at the Stade de France. Bilic had been shoving and holding Blanc in a typical penalty-area joust for position. The Croat defender fell to the ground holding his head, although television replays showed Bilic's hand had, at most, brushed his neck.

Yesterday, at the French training camp in Clarefontaine, south-west of Paris, a clearly distraught Blanc said that

missing the World Cup final was a "personal catastrophe".

"But a personal catastrophe is something I can deal with. If my sending-off had led to Croatia equalising and going on to win the game, I would have been devastated. The important thing is that we are through to the final."

Blanc, 32, said the referee was "clearly out of position to see what had really gone on... Yes, there was a clash between us but it was the kind of thing that happens at every corner and free-kick. He was holding me and I brushed him away. There was no question of me trying to punch him or slap him. Why should I? It was our free-kick. What would I have had to gain?"

Blanc said Bilic "played his part well", convincing the unsighted referee that he had done something "wicked" when he had not. "When the referee came over I thought he would give me a yellow card, otherwise I would have talked to him in Spanish. [Blanc used to play

for Barcelona]. When he produced the red, I was astonished but there was nothing I could say. You have to respect the referee's decision."

"He [Bilic] came up to me after the match to apologise, saying he was sorry that I had been sent off. I felt like punching him then."

The French coach, Aimé Jacquet, also criticised the sending-off as "quite unjustified". Distress for Blanc had cast a shadow, he said, over the French team's celebrations.

Blanc has in fact been banned for two matches by Fifa - he will also miss France's first European Championship qualifier in Iceland in September. Fifa has said that there can be no appeal against the ban.

There was a strident response yesterday from England's football establishment to Blanc's fate. The Premiership referee, Steve Lodge, said: "Players have been going down at the drop of a hat. It's very easy for people to say referees should take action against these players, but this sort of offence is one of the most difficult things to identify."

Brendan Batson, the deputy chief executive of the Professional Footballers' Association, said: "It's sad to think that the actions of one professional can get another sent off."

The Manchester United manager, Alex Ferguson, said: "Bilic went down as if he'd been killed. It's part of the Croatian culture to do that kind of thing, and he won't worry about it for a second. There's no way he'll regret his actions, it's not in his nature." Everton declined to comment on Bilic's conduct. Tackling the cheats, page 31. Jacquet earns respect, page 30



Top: Frenchman Laurent Blanc (No 5) pushes Slaven Bilic away after the Croatian player had pulled his shirt in Wednesday's semi-final. Bottom: Blanc turns towards the referee as Bilic collapses to the ground

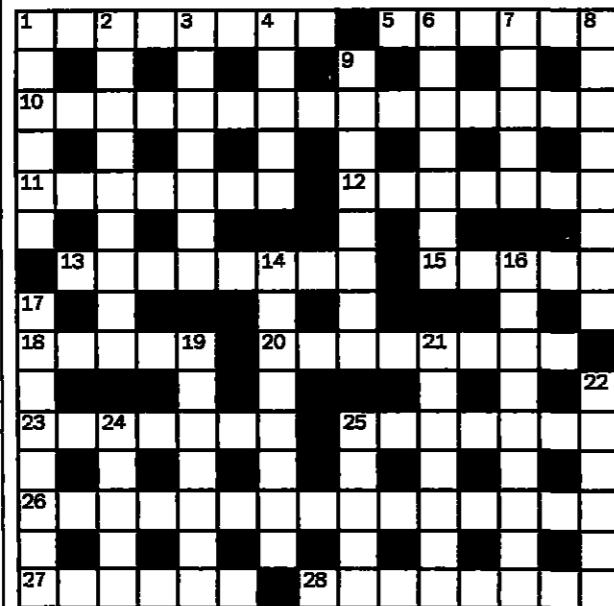


THE FRIDAY CROSSWORD

No. 3659 Friday 10 July

By Phi

Thursday's solution



ACROSS

- 1 End of game filling 40 hours a week? (4,2)
- 5 Regard English backing tum-gatherings (6)
- 10 What's uncovered in particular singer (listen to the woman!) (2,3,10)
- 11 Sailors were very happy to take me North? (7)
- 12 Finished with drink it's unusually salty (4,3)
- 13 Edies mentioned returning or settling in Pennsylvania (8)
- 14 A quiet friend gets shock... (5)
- 18 ...contend shock's not right (5)
- 20 Leave some to join in (4,4)
- 23 Location not in Preston, I admit (or is it?) (7)
- 25 Provide vase to be put in
- 26 Disappearing into the bedding, having seen a ghost (6,5,2,15)
- 27 Drolly drunk (like the proverbial peat!) (6)
- 28 Pagan worship's dispersed adroitly (8)

DOWN

- 1 Bird goes around Lake to take evasive action (6)
- 2 Characters giving permission without hesitation (9)
- 3 Flask drunkard tipped up when going round Channel Island (7)
- 4 Fruit left out initially to be consumed by people (6)
- 6 Composer encountered one in South Africa (7)
- 7 Destroyed the heart of most moral significance
- 8 Extra cut added to total? It doesn't matter to someone so wounded (6)
- 9 Restrain hard veteran footballer (4,4)
- 14 Had more girlfriends, perhaps, being old (3-5)
- 16 Showing cheek in hospital department is appropriate (9)
- 17 Finishing last in any event (5,3)
- 19 Uncommonly lenient artist? (7)
- 21 Sun-god thus restricted by chum's sunshade (7)
- 22 Yorkshire town a little to one side (6)
- 24 Capital tourist attraction we found in part of Dartmoor (5)
- 25 Combined force's applied (5)

MOTOR RACING

BY DERICK ALLSOP
at Silverstone

MICHAEL SCHUMACHER gave the strongest hint yet yesterday that he is to commit himself to Ferrari for a further two years, a deal that will add another £50m to his fortune.

And he made it clear he will be giving nothing away on the track to his team-mate, Eddie Irvine, here on Sunday, even if it is the British Grand Prix.

The German has closed to within six points of McLaren-Mercedes's Mika Hakkinen at the top of the world championship, progress that has encouraged him to extend his association with Ferrari, whom he joined in 1996 after winning

two titles with Benetton. It has long been supposed he would eventually return to Mercedes, who nurtured his talent, and McLaren's Ron Dennis acknowledges he would have to be interested in recruiting the world's greatest driver should he become available.

Ferrari, however, recognise Schumacher is crucial to their prospects, and he appears to find the challenge of leading the Italians back to the pinnacle of the sport irresistible. They last won the drivers' championship 19 years ago.

Asked if he would be staying at Ferrari, Schumacher replied:

"There is good reason that will happen."

But he dismissed rumours he would reward Irvine for his selfless support in France a fortnight ago by handing him the chance of victory in this race.

"I am going for the championship and can't give any presents. I need presents for myself," he said.

Ferrari have now produced a challenge to McLaren from nowhere but, if history is anything to go by, Schumacher will need all the help Irvine can give him. He has never won here and concedes McLaren

are likely to be stronger than they were in France.

Schumacher said: "I have tried many times to win here and I'll try again. I need the car to finish and me to do well. But it's going to be more difficult than it was at Magny-Cours."

"Things change from circuit to circuit. If it is wet it will be a slightly unclear picture and may suit us. But generally I prefer it to be dry."

Schumacher's characteristically aggressive racing has been a constant source of debate within Formula One prompting David Coulthard, the McLaren driver third in the championship, 19 years ago.

Hill was yesterday also being talked about as a target for the British American Racing team, who make their grand prix debut next year.

Hill and Herbert hungry, page 24

Ferrari set to keep Schumacher

Published by Independent Newspapers (UK) Limited, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL, and printed at Mirror Colour Print, St Albans Road, Watford, Herts WD1 3TT.

Back issues available from Historic Newspapers, 01998 544170.

Friday 10 July 1998 Registered as a newspaper with the Post Office

Forget the football

Instead, think about the sheer scale of World Cup 98. Issuing 2.5 million tickets. Co-ordinating 50,000 employees and volunteers. Providing information and resources for 12,000 journalists. Creating a web site to deal with up to 160 million visitors every day. Imagine the IT infrastructure needed to support this.

Now imagine having to do this under the critical eyes of 3.5 billion viewers, for 24 hours a day, without a moment's interruption.

This is the challenge that HP took up. And they have come up with the goods with the same apparent ease as Brazil reaching another Final.

In less spectacular ways, HP and its partners design and implement IT infrastructures for critical business applications every day.

To find out the full facts about HP's World Cup, you can visit them at www.hpworlcup.com

And to see their top performers in action, there is no better place than the Morse Enterprise Computing Centre. You can call us on: 0800 228888.

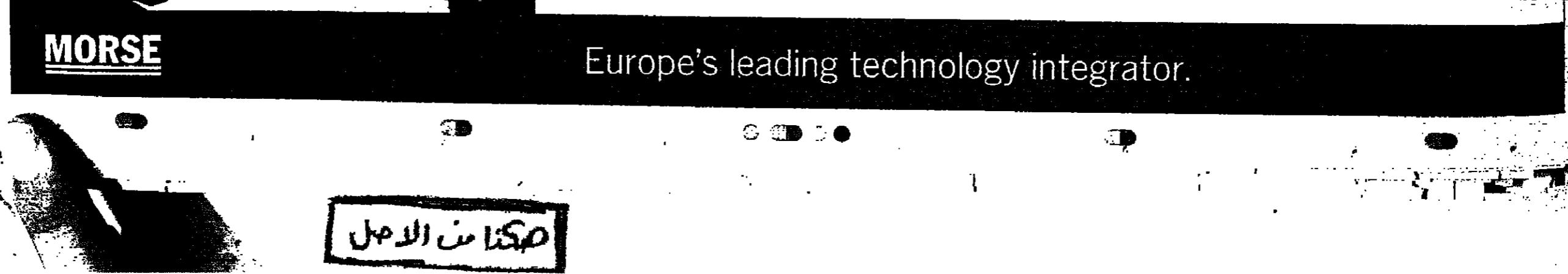
www.morse.co.uk

HEWLETT PACKARD



MORSE

Europe's leading technology integrator.



FRIDAY REVIEW

COMMENT • FEATURES • ARTS • LISTINGS • TELEVISION



The notorious paedophile Robert Oliver (left) is expected any time now at a charity halfway house in the tiny village of Wing in Rutland. The mood of the people among whom he must live gets angrier by the hour. How, they want to know, can the safety of their children be guaranteed? But where, we want to know, will he live if not there?

A very English lynch mob

As lynch mobs go, it was a rather old fashioned and very English affair. In fact it's the kind of scene that Agatha Christie might have appreciated. The setting was a beautiful country lane near the tiny village of Wing in deepest Rutland. About 150 people gathered there at 6pm two days ago. They came by car, pushchair and pushchair. There were a few T-shirt and tattoo types but most were dressed in Marks & Spencer blouses and jumpers. Shoes were sensible. The mood was not. As one villager explained, they had tried being reasonable about the Home Office decision to move the notorious paedophile Robert Oliver to a charity halfway house on this deserted lane and that had got them nowhere. It was time for a little local ruthlessness.

"Can you guarantee the safety of our children? Can you do that one thing?" demanded a woman who looked the epitome of respectability except for the way she was brandishing her car key like a weapon.

"I don't think that it is possible to..." he said.

"Yes or no! Yes or no!"

"It's not as easy as that..."

"Yes it is. It is very easy. A small child of 18 months can say yes or no!" said the woman, key stabbing the air.

Clearly Greg Smith, the regional representative of the Langley House Trust that runs the Christian rehabilitation house called Wing Grange could not. He was carrying a red Bible, and I hope it gave him some solace because he didn't get it from anyone else. His voice was monotone and occasionally patronising as he explained that there were already paedophiles in the community and that Robert Oliver would be electronically tagged and that there had been a significant security improvement at the Grange. The crowd were having none of it.

"You have broken your promise to the community that you would never have paedophiles here!" shouted the key lady.

"It's not..."

"Lies, lies, lies!" shouted another woman from the back of the crowd who was older and wearing a red tartan skirt. In fact, looking closer, it became clear that this woman could actually be Miss Marple.

What would her creator have made of it all? At least a novel, I would think, because what is happening in Wing has most of the ingredients of a Christie classic. There is an evil man, a mystery decision, an ethical dilemma, a money motive and lots of village intrigue. Many believe their telephones are being tapped and see Special Branch types everywhere. Every one seems to have a photocopy of one thing or another to show me.

"I never knew there were so many photocopies around," said one villager who refused to give me his name, showing me a piece of paper entitled "Lambs to the Slaughter" that detailed how the paedophile gang that included Robert Oliver abducted and killed 14-year-old Jason Swift during a homosexual orgy in 1985. (Oliver was released last September and, after being hounded from town to town, was moved temporarily to a secure unit in Milton Keynes.) "It's pretty amazing."

Perhaps, but what is happening in Wing is also worrying. As fact and rumour intertwine public concern becomes twisted into an ugliness easily exploited by the likes of the British National Party. The BNP has been leafletting here this week and wants to get more involved. This means that the Special Branch are indeed here, cruising round these pin-drop quiet streets lined with houses of yellow stone and hanging baskets of ferocious colour. The villagers claim they don't want anything to do with extremists, though one of them adds it might be useful to learn how to make a firebomb. I'm not sure if this is a joke.

So how did this conflict begin? From the



Brian Harris

villagers' point of view it all began a few months ago when someone noticed that Wing Grange was sprucing itself up. Why was that? Wing Grange is a half a mile out of the village but for years its 14 or so residents - mostly former thieves - have lived as a part of this community. They drank in the local pub, manned a stall at the fete, ran a pick-your-own fruit stall. These extremes are the type no one else wanted and villagers saw it as a duty to help with their rehabilitation. It all worked out rather well, considering, though over the years there have been an arson attack and a few other incidents. Security had never been a big thing here and the Grange has an open door policy. Why, then, was a new fence being erected?

The answer to this was not immediately clear. A local paper reported that Wing Grange was now taking released Section One prisoners, including paedophiles. This is a terrible thing to say in 1998. While it is true that the average paedophile - or, as one expert said, "your modern paedophile" - do live amongst us, in a family and in our communities, most of us ignore this information. The paedophile is today's monster: the man we would most like to burn at the stake. So, not unnaturally, the 300-strong community of Wing and neighbouring villages were disturbed by the news. A series of meetings then took place.

The rumour was that Robert Oliver was coming. More meetings were organised. A

few villagers went to London to meet the Home Secretary himself on 22 June, and Jack Straw confirmed the rumour was true. The newly formed Rutland Community Protection Group was pleased to have got the truth at last but appalled to think that anyone would consider housing such a man in the ramshackle collection of Victorian farmhouses that comprise Wing Grange.

BY ANN TRENEGAN

Villagers suspect that money is somehow involved. Financial reports on file at the Charities Commission show that the Langley House Trust received a £763,000 grant from the Home Office in 1997. A further £1m was received for accommodation,

much of which must be from benefits. The trust's only other income is from donations and investments of about £250,000. That means the Trust relies on the Government in one way or the other, for almost all of its money. When I mention this to Alun Michael, the Home Office Minister, he says any such link is ridiculous and points out that the Trust rejects more candidates for

rehabilitation than it accepts. The central question is why the Government has chosen to put a notorious paedophile (and one who is technically free) in a private hostel that seems so vulnerable. The government is not in charge of this

place and the police can seem a far-away presence: call-out times are 15 to 30 minutes. The property itself, despite the new front fence, does not appear secure (from the back it looks a positive sieve). It is hard to believe that this could be the best accommodation for this man in England.

"Why isn't he put in a prison?" demands a villager. But you cannot put a free man in prison. And while the Government has introduced, and continues to introduce, ways to control the movements of known paedophiles, the timing of Oliver's release means that some rules do not apply to him. He has to go somewhere, and the Home Office thinks it makes sense for that to be a small community where he will be highly visible. It is a case of vigilante, not vigilante justice. "Do you want to go back to the previous system where somebody walked out and lived in a community and no one knew?" asks Alun Michael.

The local MP is Alun Duncan and there is a certain irony in this. He is a Tory who is in favour of the death penalty for the likes of Oliver but who now finds himself spending hours organising this man's move to his own constituency. On one side he has the Home Office pulling a moral (and suddenly bipartisan) string. On the other are his angry constituents. In the middle is the trim and fast talking figure of Mr Duncan. "At the end of the day this is a massive moral decision. All moral decisions are about a particular shade of grey, never

about black and white," he says. "Anybody who just says 'Oh but the law should be different', is evading the moral decision."

Mr Duncan is now knee-deep in grey. He has accepted that Mr Oliver has to go somewhere and if it is going to be Wing Grange, he is making sure standards are as high as possible. After a tour of the hostel last Friday he is insisting on another £100,000 for security arrangements, a monthly visit from the Home Office and a liaison group between the Grange and the village. "I still hope that maybe we set such tough conditions that Robert Oliver himself won't agree to come to Wing Grange," he says.

In his dreams. "It is highly likely that (Oliver) will go there. We took the decision in principle some time ago," said Alun Michael. The villagers know this. More meetings are planned and Oliver's arrival dates buzz round like bumblebees. The latest rumour is next week. The villagers still hope they can stop him. After all, they say, this is supposed to be a democracy. But they also believe democracy has failed them.

One neighbour of Wing Grange has erected a "Private House" sign on his front gate. I'm not sure that is going to stop a firebreather. His dog named Bruce thumps his tail as I approach. "Bruce is in charge of security but it's too bloody hot," he says.

But this is not as hot as it gets in Wing. We will only know that when Robert Oliver moves into his new home on this shady country lane in the middle of nowhere.

INSIDE

Letters	2	Features	8-9	Design	12-13	Law	20
Leaders and comment	3-5	Science	10	Architecture	14	Listings, radio	21-23
Obituaries	6-7	Arts	11	Music	15-19	Today's TV	24

LAW

CO-OPERATIVE INSURANCE SOCIETY IS A HOUSEHOLD NAME.

In the business of household insurance, CIS is amongst the top 5 insurers in the UK. It also serves over 3 million households, and has £20 billion funds under management. For more on CIS, call 0161 238 5115 or visit www.co-op.co.uk



A family of businesses

I

Falling off the joke cycle

If we start winning, then things look sizeable get who and play, trol... I when their were

The star wins then diff... We may also find ourselves asking more technical questions about the world of TV, such as:

"Why does someone not take David Baddiel and Frank Skinner, lash the pair of them to the big hand of Big Ben with heavy duty garden twine and leave them there for a few days?"

The only person who can give an in-depth answer to all those questions is veteran television and showbiz expert Nat West, and it is wonderful to have him back here again to handle all of your queries, so a **VERY big hand please**



MILES KINGTON
Media expert Nat West explains why BR sandwiches are still funny

for the one and only, the incredible...

Nat West writes: Yeah, yeah, very sarcastic, thanks a million, look, I have not got long. I have got to get to Basildon to conduct a seminar on "The Lloyd Webbers and their Marriages", so can we get cracking with the first query...?

Why does someone not take David Baddiel and Frank Skinner, lash the pair of them to the big hand of Big Ben with heavy duty garden twine and leave them there for a few days?

Nat West writes: Because heavy duty garden twine has been banned by new EU regulations due to the dangers of using far on string.

You would have to attach them to the big hand with heavy duty wire. I am afraid. And the next! Do not hang around. I have got to be in Basildon in a couple of hours to chair a seminar on "The Effect of the World Cup On The English Language".

What sort of effect is that?

Nat West writes: Ruinous. In what sense?

Nat West writes: It stops people thinking. I was listening to Brian Moore on ITV before the Brazil v Holland match, and after the interminable national anthems were over, he said:

"Right, the formalities are over and now it is just the handshakes and the team photographs.

What is wrong with that?

Not West writes: Handshakes ARE formal. Team photos ARE formal.

Blimey, have you got any other examples?

Nat West writes: Yes. When Brazil qualified for the final, the football man on the Today programme said:

"So this really is the last tango in Paris!"

And what is wrong with that?

Nat West writes: The tango is an Argentine dance. They do not do it in Brazil.

Are you not just nit-picking rather pedantically?

Nat West writes: Of course. It is one of the few pleasures left to an old man.

What are the others?

Nat West writes: Never you mind. Still, that reminds me - I have got to get to Basildon to chair a seminar on "The entry of Viagra into the joke cycle", so can we hurry it along?

Is Viagra being joked about already?

Nat West writes: Is Viagra being joked about already? You must be joking! People have almost stopped joking about it! It's way along the joke cycle already.

How do you mean, the joke cycle?

Nat West writes: Do they not teach you anything in school these days? The joke cycle is what happens to all great joke subjects, whether it is British Rail sandwiches or Essex girls or whatever.

Stage one is when something gets a reputation for being dodgy, and everyone makes jokes about it, like Essex girls or French toilets or BR sandwiches. It is happening to Virgin Trains right now. People joke about them late because they are late. Stage two is when reality changes but the joke continues. That is the stage reached by *Guardian* misprints. The *Guardian* is no longer worse than any other paper – indeed, *The Independent* has often been guiltier in the recent past – but people cannot be bothered to pick a new butt for their misprint jokes. I believe that Channel 5 is now picking up viewers, but jokes about nobody watching Channel 5 will continue for some time to come.

The next stage is when the reality disappears but the jokes survive, like British Rail no longer exists and railway sandwiches are very good now, but people still insist on making jokes about British Rail sandwiches.

What is the last stage?

Nat West writes: That is when people stop making jokes altogether, like they don't about Essex, or about Channel 4, or Gatwick...

Are you really going to all these seminars in Basildon?

Nat West writes: Course not. They are jokers. I am attempting to get the idea of seminars into the joke cycle.

The underlying implications concern the regulation of lobbying.

This activity is an essential part of the democratic process. The ability to plead a case on behalf of any individual, charity or business organisation is the cement in a sensible relationship between those who legislate and those who are affected by legislation.

The difference now is that, because of the exponential growth in legislation (both in Westminster and Brussels) over the past two decades or so, there has been an equal growth in the number of specialists who understand the process and assist in putting a case. This "industry" has grown unregulated and there are some who bring no credit to the practice both in and out of Parliament.

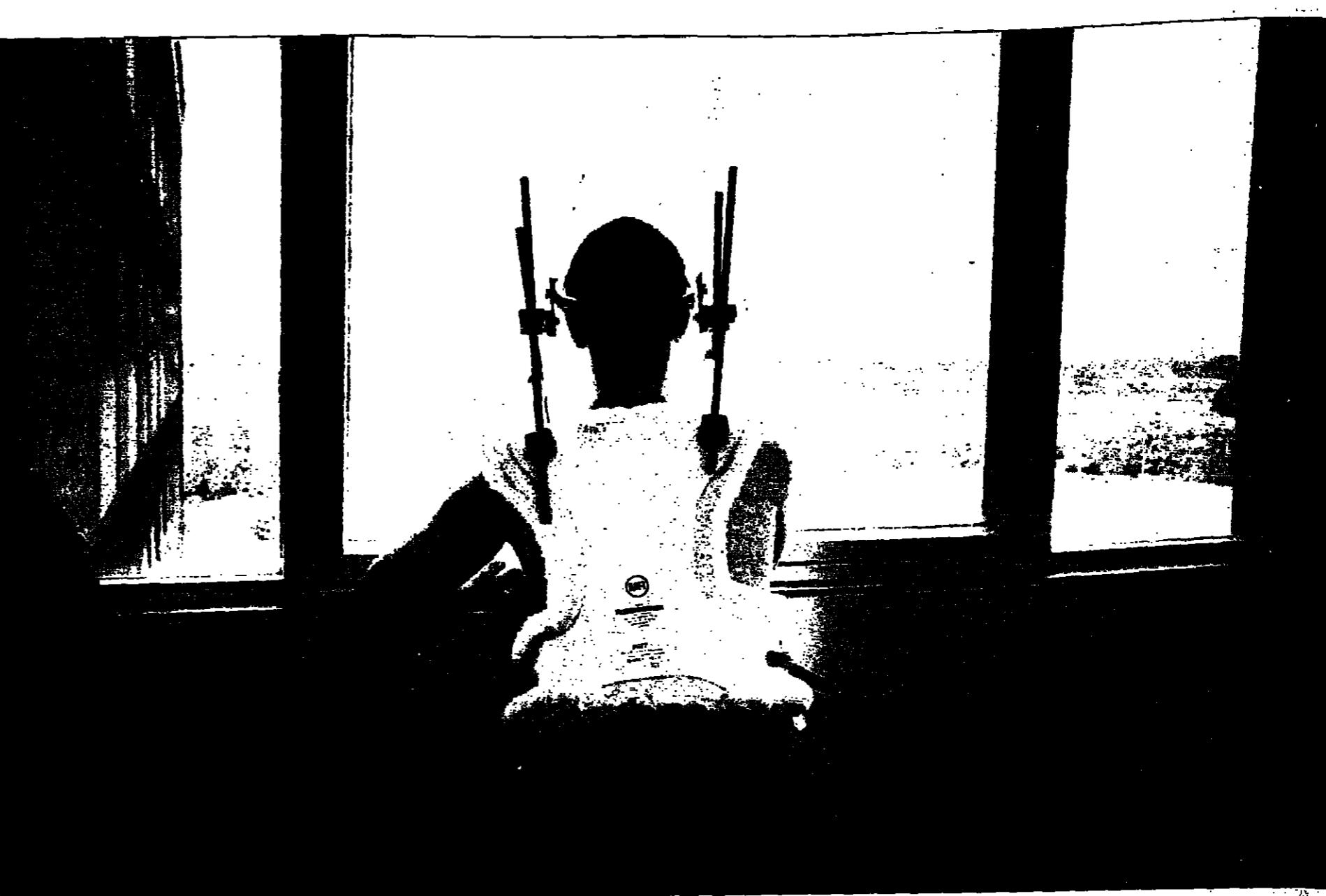
For many years an effective regulatory system has existed in Canada, recently enforced with the office of an Ethics Counsellor and powers to punish breaches of the law on the part of both lobbyists and office holders. Over the last two years similar regulatory regimes have been set up in Washington and Brussels.

Organisations such as the Institute of Public Relations and the Public Relations Consultants' Association have recently brought in even more stringent rules governing their members' activities in this field, but they remain voluntary codes of practice.

Members of Parliament have consistently refused to acknowledge the need for regulation. When the subject was last brought up in the Select Committee on Members' Interests a majority decided that a decision in principle should be taken to establish a register of professional lobbyists. In considering the report the House did not support the recommendation, preferring to rely on self-regulation.

We have now seen the stupidity of this opinion. Regulation along lines long ago established in other major democracies is needed in the UK more than ever before.

JOHN W CLARKE
Clarke Burch Associates
Longfield, Kent



The latest in this week's series celebrating 50 years of the NHS features a patient at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge. Paul's spine is cracked in three places and he wears a halo brace to help him walk. He is due to be released this week but must wear the brace for the next two months

Brian Harris

BY CI

HUN

char

terd

T

is a

most

M

but

mon

wor

The

World

cou

ing

Si

the

i

cate

over

pe

l

liev

who

estly

Li

daily

char

with

tial

a

line

it clu

mad

now

exce

level

T

than

men

the

: pres

havi

victi

ball

98

in

time

a ge

grou

a ch

into

for

E

Ji

font

in

Pi

Wed

that

Wor

to

Ji

pene

said

"I

ly th

Cup

have

so or

still

be i

Part

our

does

J:

ta

g

off o

mos

ever

I

K

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

I

THE INDEPENDENT

1 CANADA SQUARE, CANARY WHARF, LONDON E14 5DL TELEPHONE: 0171 293 2000 OR 0171 345 2000 FAX: 0171 293 2435 OR 0171 345 2435
THE INDEPENDENT ON THE INTERNET: WWW.INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

A decision taken in the interests of ordinary people

THE DECISION not to raise interest rates yesterday was a positive one, not a neutral decision, and should be welcomed. Earlier this week, we argued that the terms of reference of the Bank of England's monetary policy committee should be widened, beyond the simple aim of keeping down inflation, to take employment and the sustainability of growth into account. There may well be no satisfactory form of words by which this might be done, but the committee's decision yesterday suggests that it takes a broader view of its remit in practice than it should in theory.

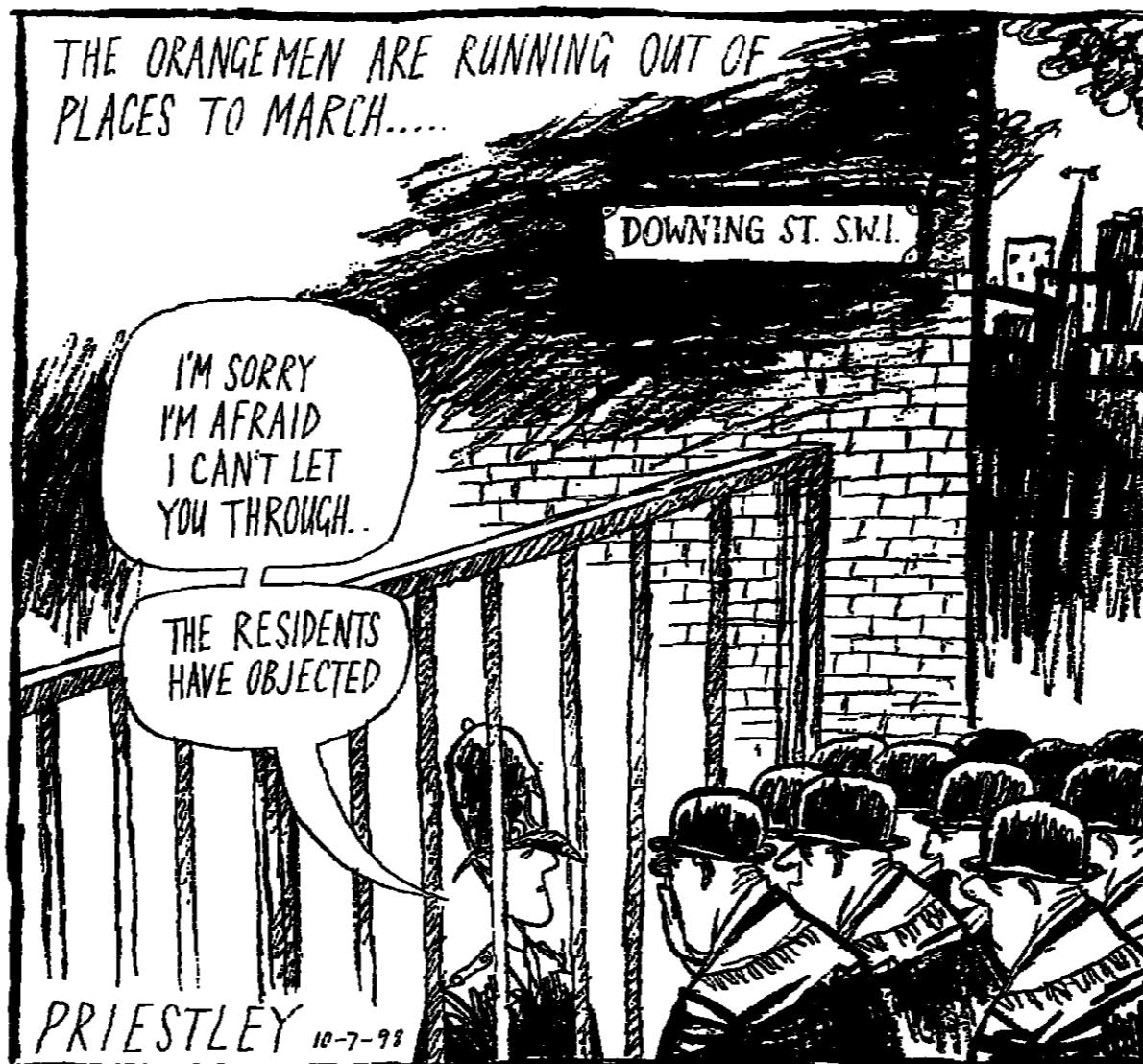
Because if it took a strict view of its objective of price stability – defined as a target inflation rate of 2.5 per cent – it would certainly put interest rates up. Average earnings are now rising at 5.2 per cent and underlying inflation, already at 3.2 per cent, is likely to go more than one percentage point above the target over the next few months. If it does, Eddie George, the Bank governor, has to write a letter to the Chancellor – something along the lines of "I will not miss my inflation target again". 100 times.

If inflation really was all that mattered, the committee should drive Britain ruthlessly into recession, because the rate of inflation is asymmetrical: it goes up more easily than it goes down. The best way to ensure that it stays in the target range would be to risk it being too low rather than too high. Even in recession, our inflation rate has not gone below 1.5 per cent in 30 years.

Fortunately, the committee is more in touch with the real economy than that, and seems to be operating – as the Federal Reserve does in the United States – according to the unwritten rules of a broader economic policy. It seems to put real people and their jobs above sharp swings in policy. For the moment, then, let us praise Mr George and his colleagues. But this is contingent praise in a finely balanced situation.

Depending on where precisely the committee draws the line between a broad and a narrow interpretation of its brief, the danger remains of an interest rate rise in August. It should be urged: keep it broad. In the broader picture, the danger of recession is greater than that of a runaway inflationary "blip". The committee's remit is too narrow, in that it is impossible to steer a modern, slow-responding economy without touching the sides of an inflation range of 1.5-3.5 per cent. But it is also too narrow in that it is provided with one club – interest rates – to hit its one target.

One of the drawbacks of making the Bank of England



independent – desirable though that was – is that it has narrowed the terms of political debate over the state of the economy. In the place of rumbustious debate on the floor of the House of Commons, with the Chancellor required to defend economic policy across the board, Mr George gives evidence to a quiet select committee upstairs on the narrow question of inflation. The closest we have had to a wider economic debate in the Commons recently has been when the Prime Minister was asked by Paddy Ashdown to commit himself more explicitly to joining the single European currency. Such a declaration would cut interest rates and the value of the pound at a stroke, but Mr Blair rightly rejected the

idea of using a long-term objective to fix short-term economic problems.

Meanwhile, journalists – and we plead guilty, too – have tended to focus too closely on the story of "hawks" versus "doves" on the monetary policy committee, trawling through the minutes of the meeting before last. It would be a small step forward to publish the minutes immediately after the meetings – as hinted at by the Chancellor's adviser, Edward Balls, in this newspaper last month. A greater step forward would be for Gordon Brown to lead a debate on the economy in parliament, in order to broaden the context in which the committee makes its next decision on the interest rate.

Sudden change for the better?

MOSHOOD ABIOLA'S death in prison is both the worst and in a perverse way the best thing that could have happened to Nigeria. Best, because the 60-year-old Abiola's sudden death has proved to be the one event that has forced the ruling military junta to face the impossibility of continuing the rule by generals that has laid the country so low.

Should the autopsy prove that he was murdered, of course, then the result will be mayhem as his followers take revenge, and martial law will be instituted once more. But his jailers obviously feel that the tests will prove the conspiracy theorists wrong (otherwise they would not have invited international doctors to perform the autopsy) and are ready to announce some kind of plan for a return to civilian rule. Before Wednesday's crisis, that was by no means the case.

Yet Abiola's death is also a tragedy in that he was the man most capable of keeping the country together as a civilian president. Given the pressures of north versus south, the resentments of the Ogoni people, the conflicts between Muslim and Christian, it may well prove impossible to keep the country together. There is no absolute reason for anyone outside, let alone inside, to defend its federalism as such. We have learned enough from Rwanda and Burundi not to view the prospect of tribal conflict with equanimity.

Which is why General Abubakar deserves some support and patience from Britain and the US. A week ago it seemed right to demand Abiola's release without conditions. The General needs support, as well as persistent pressure, to keep the temperature down. The move to civilian rule has to be absolute, and have a clear timetable. The generals must give up all power. But, given that, Britain's role should be that of the committed friend, not the critical onlooker.

Heart of the matter

IT IS QUITE normal for people to say they are suffering some minor ailment when they have gone into hospital for a serious operation, so no one should complain that William Hague invented some cock-and-bull story about his sinuses. It is obvious now that he really had a heart transplant, so vigorous and articulate was his use of his one chance to hold the Prime Minister to account this week.

If this means that the Conservatives are back as a real party of opposition, this is excellent news for the health of our parliamentary democracy.

There's a right way and a wrong way to pay off your political debts

SOMETIMES THE counter-intuitive happens. One minute William Hague is languishing in his sick bed, provoking not very sotto voce complaints that he is a wimp. The next minute he has the triumph that every politician longs for: making both sides of the Commons laugh at his opponents' expense. The earth moved a little in Parliament last week, perhaps for the first time since the election. And that is something Tony Blair can't ignore.

Some of what needs to be done is relatively simple. The new rules hastily being drawn up by Sir Richard Wilson to govern relations between lobbyists and government need to be a lot stricter than the lobbyists are, no doubt, expecting them to be.

Since the scandal over the lobbying activities of Ian Greer, who boasted that he had MPs queuing up to taxis at a rank to do favours for cash, the focus of lobbying companies has switched away from Westminster. It would be nice to think that was only because of embarrassment; it actually had at least as much to do with the fact that, with a government enjoying a huge majority, MPs no longer hold the sway they used to.

There is not a much point in swanning round a meeting – say of the standing committee on a gas deregulation bill – if the votes are already in the bag. This is why the lobbying companies are even more interested than they were in their contacts with political advisers, civil servants, and ministers – and some of those more than others.

Those in government who think that the clever young men who worked on Labour's election cam-

paign and traded in their experience for good salaries in the lobbying industry are still owed a debt are wrong. The debt was discharged by the very fact that they were able to get such jobs. Having taken that choice – a rather Thatcherite choice, one might think – they are now on their own.

Only one or two, Colin Byrne of Sandwick, say, or David Hill of Lowe Bell, could say they were hired for their track records in presentation or political management. Most, let's be frank, were hired for their contacts in the administration. Which means the rules governing their relations with those contacts need to be strict – and probably statutory.

But that's only a start. Lobbyists are not alone in seeking to bring their influence to bear on every level of government.

If Robert Ayling, the chairman of British Airways, has a minor problem, he doesn't have to hire a lobbyist or even telephone his friend the Prime Minister. He can ring up the relevant Deputy Secretary at the Department of Trade and Industry, a department he happens to know personally from the inside. To point this out is not to suggest that businessmen don't have the right to make their case; but it does mean that we ought to know a lot more about how they do it.

The vigorous Freedom of Information Bill the government promised but has still failed to deliver would help. And, if there is a persuasive case against Lord Neill reviewing the whole subject of business access to government as an adjunct to his enquiry into party funding, I have yet to hear it.



DONALD MACINTYRE

It's time for Tony Blair to do some old-fashioned things – like making his party feel they count again

All this matters because so much of the business of modern government affects profits or stock market values. Many of the biggest decisions, the ones which occupy most ministerial time and argument, seldom leave the business pages of the newspapers. And they have huge public interest as well as commercial importance. But, even if the Government were to take all these steps, it would not quite deal with the sour aftertaste left by this week's events.

In the fashionable version Peter Mandelson is the root of all evil. Here I have to offer a health warning – and a confession. I do speak to Peter Mandelson from time to time – along with quite a lot of other politicians. Last week I was indentified by the *Daily Mail* of being a "Mandelson muppet" on the grounds that I am

writing a book about him and the Labour Party which is "authorised" – which it isn't.

I happen to think that Mandelson was loyal but unwise to agree to speak at an event arranged by Derek Draper's lobbying company. Mandelson does not. I also think that he should – and, though Blair hasn't made up his mind yet, most probably now will – go off to a departmental job which takes him away from the centre of power and gives him something to do apart from fixing and enforcing on behalf of Blair.

But you don't have to be a muppet to think that the problem goes rather beyond Mandelson's own personality. This is not just for the relatively trivial reason that he was far from alone in doing what he did. Important people in the Treasury as well as the Number 10 policy unit also enjoyed cordial relations with Draper and the company he used to belong to until he fell. Mandelson may symbolise, but he does not on his own cause, the sense of exclusion now increasingly rampant in the Parliamentary Labour Party.

Quite a lot of the same sort of people who used to feel enraged when Harold Wilson or Denis Healey had to break off a meeting with MPs to go and sit at the feet of – say – Jack Jones of the Transport and General Workers' Union feel the same sense of frustration that there are a group of businessmen and outsiders – some of them a lot more famous at the end of this week than they were at the beginning of it – enjoying a level of access to the centre of power which they can only dream of. The echo of Draper's boast, however dubious, that there is

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"We can, if we wish, put our minds to paralyse this country in a matter of hours."

David McNarry,
an Orange Order leader

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"Ask yourself whether you are happy and you cease to be so."
John Stuart Mill,
English philosopher and economist

Life assurance?

Men (non-smokers) £100,000 guaranteed cover 25 year term	
Age 30*	
EAGLE STAR	£11.17
Direct Line	£12.35
Virgin Direct	£13.34
Marks & Spencer	£15.65
Age 35*	
EAGLE STAR	£15.93
Direct Line	£18.70
Virgin Direct	£19.29
Marks & Spencer	£22.55

Women (non-smokers) £100,000 guaranteed cover 25 year term	
Age 30*	
EAGLE STAR	£8.60
Virgin Direct	£9.15
Direct Line	£9.89
Marks & Spencer	£10.45
Age 35*	
EAGLE STAR	£11.44
Direct Line	£12.82
Virgin Direct	£13.33
Marks & Spencer	£15.75

Guaranteed cover 25 year term	
Age 30*	
EAGLE STAR	£11.17
Direct Line	£12.35
Virgin Direct	£13.34
Marks & Spencer	£15.65
Age 35*	
EAGLE STAR	£15.93
Direct Line	£18.70
Virgin Direct	£19.29
Marks & Spencer	£22.55

Guaranteed cover 25 year term	
Age 30*	
EAGLE STAR	£8.60
Direct Line	£9.15
Virgin Direct	£9.89
Marks & Spencer	£10.45
Age 35*	
EAGLE STAR	£11.44
Direct Line	£12.82
Virgin Direct	£13.33
Marks & Spencer	£15.75

* Age 30, non-smoker, £100,000 guaranteed cover 25 year term. Premiums paid annually. Policy terms and conditions apply. * Age 35, non-smoker, £100,000 guaranteed cover 25 year term. Premiums paid annually. Policy terms and conditions apply.

For low-cost life assurance call 0800 77 66 66

Lines open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week



"WE WANTED it. We dreamt of it. We got it. Yesterday night the French football team at last qualified for a World Cup final against Croatia. It wasn't exactly easy. It was mainly thanks to Thuram. But we've done it! But Sunday, day of the final, isn't Wednesday and Brasil isn't Croatia. Ronaldo, Rivaldo and Bebeto and pals play a football of defence, attack and enjoyment on a grand scale. Nevertheless, the current champions of the world are now the only obstacle between France and their Valhalla." Gérard Thomas, *Liberation*

MONITOR

THE NEWS OF THE WORLD

French verdicts on their World Cup success

young and the old of our country of both sexes and all origins, continues. We follow them with welling eyes.

And on their shoulders they will carry the pride of an entire nation."

Yves Théâtre, *France Soir*



"INCREDIBLE, unbelievable Aime Jacquet and his idiosyncratic team yesterday became football legend at the Saint Denis stadium. They are the first Tricolores to ever reach a World Cup Final. France is in its own final and will challenge

the World Cup throne on Sunday. The inner light this tremendous team carries must on Sunday shine brightly at the Stade de France with a World Cup brandished high in the Parisian sky."

Jean-Christophe Papillon, *Le Figaro*

contrary, and enjoy themselves. This World Cup has also (above all) reminded those people who constantly forget that this country is a marvel and that we can do great things with her. Jérôme Bureau, *L'Equipe*

WE ARE in the final. And the final of the World Cup is a strange place, almost inaccessible, forbidden to amateurs. It is a mythical place, a heaven on earth where any child with a little imagination hopes to walk one day. It isn't an end. It is the end of a voyage of dreams.

Pierre Georgis, *Le Monde*

Eagle Star's premiums, available on a 25 year term, are £11.17 for a 30 year old non-smoker. These figures are based on a £100,000 sum assured. Premiums are also payable for a 35 year old non-smoker. Premiums for various terms of cover. Full terms and details are available on request. Eagle Star Life Assurance Company Limited is regulated by the Financial Services Authority. Information or advice will only be provided on Eagle Star products. For

PANDORA

THE MOMENTUM continues to swell for our Anti-Rucksack On The Tube Campaign. We now have an Official Campaign Logo (see below). The avalanche of mail that cascades twice a day onto Pandora's desk includes many calls to broaden the effort. A letter received yesterday from Stephanie Beasley-Suffolk typifies these. "I believe we should aim for a total ban on these offensive articles. As I am four feet 11 inches tall, I come up to most other people's shoulder level and am frequently bashed in the face by these selfish, unthinking, inconsiderate oafs... As a general rule of thumb, size of rucksack appears to be inversely proportional to size of brain." Stephanie, thank you so much for sharing your pain. However, the immediate goal of the Campaign is to pressure London Transport into stopping people from wearing rucksacks in tube carriages. (There is some discussion of extending the Campaign to buses.)



ONE OF the Campaign's first tasks has been to ask the candidates for London Mayor to reveal their position on this vital issue. Those who have responded to date are Jeffrey Archer, Glenda Jackson, Steven Norris and Trevor Phillips. Pandora was very impressed by several of the candidates's policy statements, particularly that of prospective Labour candidate Trevor Phillips. "There should be a sign saying take your [expletive deleted] rucksack off," said Phillips, who himself sports a shoulder bag, which he assures Pandora is always stowed between his feet on the tube. "A lot of people, particularly Australians, aren't used to the culture of courtesy. They are oblivious of other people around them. You don't have to be the London Mayor to campaign on this issue, just a concerned citizen." In conclusion, Phillips said, "We love people to visit but when in London, do as Londoners do."

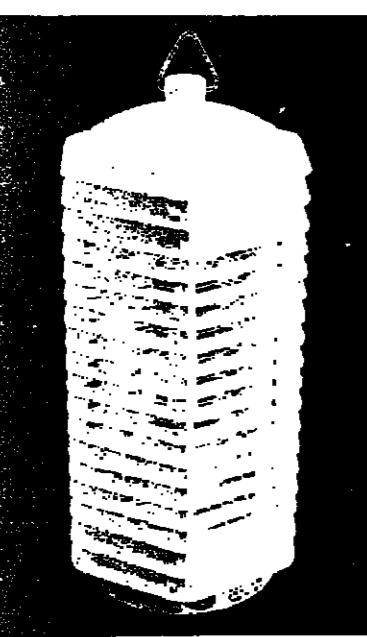
"CELINE DION? I'd rather be shot through the head with a rusty harpoon than listen to her nauseous crooning," writes Piers Morgan, editor of *The Mirror*, in a letter to the *Evening Standard* on the hot topic of switchboard holding music. While also lambasting Pandora's esteemed Editor for preferring "dreadful classical droning", Morgan claims that he has requested *The Verve* to be played for *The Mirror's* holding music. As of yesterday, however, *The Independent* and *The Mirror* still shared the same telephone switchboard and the same lovely classical sonata.



JEFFREY ARCHER, prospective Tory mayoral candidate, went to the bother of writing out his rucksack position statement and reading it to Pandora over the telephone yesterday. "People must be allowed to bring their luggage on the tube. It is important that they remain courteous. My policy is total respect and that applies to both sides." After in-depth analysis, Archer's policy

THE INDEPENDENT
HIGH POWERED INSECT TRAP

JUST £19.95 INC P&P



Put an end to flying insects in the home or garden with this "Blue Thunder" mains-powered insect trap.

Completely harmless to humans or pets, its blue phototropic bulb first attracts flying insects and then kills them with its high-tension current. "Blue Thunder" is fully insulated and shock-resistant and comes with a removable tray for catching and removal of dead insects. It complies fully with all EU electrical and safety regulations and is on offer to readers for just £19.95 - a SAVING OF £10 off MRRP!

Please send me Insect Trap at £19.95 each inc p+p
I enclose a crossed cheque/PO for pounds on bank payable to: NEWSPAPER PUBLISHING LTD 996
or debit my Access/Visa account by this amount. My card number is

Expiry Date Signature
NAME
ADDRESS
Postage & packing £1.00
Total £
Please tick if you would like to receive our monthly newsletter.
I enclose a crossed cheque/PO for £ to cover postage and packing.
Please tick if you would like to receive our monthly newsletter.
How to order:
Phone 0181 540 9696 for the credit card order service
I fill in the coupon quoting your ACCESS/Visa number and send with crossed cheque/postal order, no cash please. In the Independent INSECT TRAP Offer, Tredegar House, Lombard Road, London SW19 5TZ. This offer is subject to availability and UK mainland delivery only. Please allow up to 28 days for delivery. If not completely satisfied return within 7 days for a full refund.

Mixing genius on the dance floor



PHILIP HENSHER

There was only one conversation: "Where were you when you heard Tony De Vit had died?"

GENIUS APPEARS in strange places and in unexpected ways; it is not always through a sonnet, a landscape, or an opera. It may show up in an actor, a chef, a gardener. Though they do not produce the grand and permanent monuments of culture in which we are accustomed to look for the great creative spirits, such people may be touched by greatness.

Their audience, contemplating the empty plate after a sublime meal or the night sky veiled by smoke after an inspiring fireworks display, will understand that genius will, in the end, make itself felt, through whatever means, however ephemeral. And an audience will feel honoured to have been there at the right time, not sadness that the brilliant flourish, the splendid vertiginous evening is over.

Last weekend at Trade, the celebrated late-late Saturday night club in Clerkenwell, there was only one conversation going on in the chill-out rooms, as dawn gave way to Sunday morning and headed on through lunchtime: "Where were you when you heard Tony De Vit had died?"

There was an odd mood to the place, an unexpected edge to the usual manic hedonism. A stranger might have perceived a slight self-consciousness to the mayhem on the dance floor. There was a minute's silence - a difficult, faintly embarrassing but much appreciated gesture in so wild a club. There was a general feeling that the host had left the party.

But the same stranger, when he found out who Tony De Vit was, might be forgiven for a moment of scepticism. De Vit, who died more or less of exhaustion a week ago, was a record producer. He "remixed" other people's records, including - I fear this sounds a rather unimpressive list - East 17, Michelle Gayle and Ant & Dec. He played records at clubs such as Trade; and that's more or less it.

Not much in the way of a lifetime's achievement, you might be forgiven for thinking - not like writing a novel, or carving a big slab of marble, or doing something truly original. Just the boy who put the records on the decks for a couple of hours at a club in Clerkenwell every Sunday morning.

To which I have to say, you had to have been there at the time. I've been listening to some of his remixes this week at home; they are unfailingly brilliant, full of elegant subtleties which can't really be appreciated in a club.

But the moment has gone, and a lot of the magic, Tony De Vit unfailingly managed to stir up an intense demonic storm every Sunday

morning on the dancefloor at Trade. Trying to recreate that responsiveness, that fury just by putting on the same records is rather like reheating a soufflé, watching a home video of a fireworks display or reading a newspaper review of a great stage performance of *The Winter's Tale*.

"You should have been there" is a tiresome thing to be told, but sometimes it is an unavoidable response to something wonderful. Often, after a frenetic hour or two, one has said in rather a vague way to an acquaintance "God, what a great club this is," to be told "Well, it's Tony's set."

It's certainly difficult to say what it was; perhaps just a responsiveness to the mood of the crowd, a perfect sense of what they were feeling like, an infinitesimal awareness of when to up the tempo, and when to put on a real crowd-pleaser. So often, the boy on the decks is out of sync with the floor, has no idea or interest in what the crowd might feel like dancing.

Tony De Vit was never like that. It may not sound like much of a skill, but there was an infinite degree of patience and understanding there, a near-perfect judgement of tempo and taste which was never ahead of his audience, always absolutely with it.

It still sounds easy, and it's only the fact that hardly anyone can do it as well that suggests that there was a real streak of genius here.

You might imagine that the sadness the industry and his audience have been expressing is exaggerated; that if they had all appreciation or grander, more permanent forms of art, they might have more of a sense of proportion.

I don't know, it seems to me that his audience readily perceived that here was something out of the ordinary, someone who might be compared to a superlative chef in his manipulation of materials, his concern to give pleasure above everything.

An ephemeral art, and one which has disappeared with its creator, but an art none the less; and, as Auden said, as we try to recreate it, "though one cannot remember exactly why one has been happy, there is no forgetting that one was."

We're indefensible, but at least we're independent

TUESDAY'S VOTE in the House of Lords against the Government's policy on Scottish tuition fees was no ordinary vote.

Majorities of 211 in the House of Lords are almost unheard of. Sending an issue back to the Commons a second time is almost unheard of. The two things happening together indicate a remarkable agreement that the Government has made a mistake.

It is no use dismissing a vote like this with a demonising incantation against the hereditary peers. I went through the lobby sandwiched between a former Master of the Rolls, a former Chief Justice of Northern Ireland, and a former Vice-Chancellor of London University and President of the British Academy. A casual glance at the division list reveals three bishops, a former Chief Rabbi, the former Clerk of the Parliaments, and a former Speaker of the House of Commons. These people are not negligible.

The issue which united them is that English and Northern Irish students attending Scottish Universities are to be charged £1,000 more in tuition fees than students from Scotland, Ireland or the other countries of the EU, for attending the same courses. Two people receiving an identical university education are to pay differential fees according to their national and educational origin. This appeared to us to be discriminatory. The cost of ending this discrimination would be £2m, which, in government terms, is no more than small change.

It is no wonder that the talking point inside the division lobby was why the Government is being so pig-headed in refusing our amendment. It is not until we understand that pig-headedness that we can deal with it. This resolute refusal to admit to error is not peculiar to this government.

I once read a letter written by the Secretary of State in 1640, which said that it was 3am and he could scarcely keep his eyes open. His next letter was written at 5am *the same morning*. Anyone who listens to the confidential conversation of ministers today knows it is still like that. Bad decisions come out of overcrowded agendas, rushed timetables and exhausted meetings. That is why government legislation needs a revising Chamber.

Yet this is not the way it appears to ministers. A minister who publishes his Bill, like an academic who publishes his book, thinks in ex-



CONRAD RUSSELL

I owe my peerage to Queen Victoria, and she is in no position to cash in any political favours

ment, though it may be worse than some. It is a characteristic of the animal "government", in any form and in any century.

In the realms of constitutional theory, governments take decisions in a calm collected manner, after listening to advice from Whitehall, after a process of consultation, and after careful deliberation in Cabinet and Cabinet Committee. In the real world, whether of politics or of history, it is not like that.

The issue which united them is that English and Northern Irish students attending Scottish Universities are to be charged £1,000 more in tuition fees than students from Scotland, Ireland or the other countries of the EU, for attending the same courses. Two people receiving an identical university education are to pay differential fees according to their national and educational origin. This appeared to us to be discriminatory. The cost of ending this discrimination would be £2m, which, in government terms, is no more than small change.

It is no wonder that the talking point inside the division lobby was why the Government is being so pig-headed in refusing our amendment. It is not until we understand that pig-headedness that we can deal with it. This resolute refusal to admit to error is not peculiar to this government.

I once read a letter written by the Secretary of State in 1640, which said that it was 3am and he could scarcely keep his eyes open. His next letter was written at 5am *the same morning*. Anyone who listens to the confidential conversation of ministers today knows it is still like that. Bad decisions come out of overcrowded agendas, rushed timetables and exhausted meetings. That is why government legislation needs a revising Chamber.

Yet this is not the way it appears to ministers. A minister who publishes his Bill, like an academic who publishes his book, thinks in ex-

hausted satisfaction: "I've done that." It is at this stage, when he is least receptive to criticism, that Parliament starts asking him to revise the details. It is no wonder he tends to pull up the drawbridge and refuse to reopen closed decisions.

That is why it is no good trying to get ministers to revise legislation simply by rational argument. Exhausted minds are usually closed minds, and mere reason cannot reopen them.

In the House of Lords after dinner, governments do not usually lose divisions, and these hours have been described, parodying Sherlock Holmes, as "the hours of darkness, when the powers of the executive are exalted". At that time, ministers come very close to saying that they know their legislation is wrong, but it is too late to do anything about it. Yet face them with the prospect of defeat in the lobbies, and they may suddenly become startlingly reasonable.

Power is a wonderful cover for intellectual laziness, and the only thing which can check power is another power. This is why there must be a revising chamber that is capable of defeating the government in the lobbies.

It is when a Government starts ignoring defeat in the lobbies that the danger signals start flying. That point marks the onset of pure classical hubris, when the mind becomes armour-plated against criticism, and the possibility of error is no longer considered. It is appropriate that the years 1988-90 are still sometimes remembered as "the years of hubris". The pattern is old enough to be a standard *topos* of medieval political thought.

It is that pattern which we are very near seeing repeated in the Government's obstinacy on Scottish tuition fees. It is recognition of that

pattern which explains the extraordinarily heavy turnout against the Government on this vote. Those who are labelled "unhelpful" are in danger of losing a hearing. When governments hit this mood, they face a rapid growth of defeats in the courts.

Governments that want to shut themselves away from criticism have always relied on the power of patronage. Government fear or favour is deployed in order to secure co-operation. There is nothing new about that. What is bad is when the terms of compliance needed to gain access to patronage grow tighter, and it is confined to those who are "one of us" or "on message". If that is combined, as it is in our day, with a very rapid growth in the volume of government patronage available, the power to check the executive is in grave danger.

This article is not meant to defend hereditary peers. As an institution, we are indefensible. Yet we do have one real merit. Though we too are the beneficiaries of patronage, our patrons have the great advantage of being dead. I owe my own peerage to Queen Victoria, and she is in no position to cash any political favours by demanding my loyalty.

It is even more vital that most of us are old: the old, who are beyond hope of further preferment, enjoy an independence of mind not given to those who are bound by what Sir Henry Wotton called "servile bands/ Of hope to rise or fear to fall". In all the House of Lords those who show the stoutest independence of mind are our nonagenarians, and we must not lose them. They are unbending.

None of this is a defence of the present system. It has had its day and it must go. What many of us do feel anxious about is whether it will be replaced by a system that preserves its genuine virtues. Will our successors be able to vote down the next absurd government policy as freely as we have done this one? It is not self-evident that an assembly entirely nominated by the person whose misjudgements we were supposed to check would be able to do this as effectively as we have done.

THE INDEPENDENT
HIGH POWERED INSECT TRAP

JUST £19.95 INC P&P

Put an end to flying insects in the home or garden with this "Blue Thunder" mains-powered insect trap.

Completely harmless to humans or pets, its blue phototropic bulb first attracts flying insects and then kills them with its high-tension current. "Blue Thunder" is fully insulated and shock-resistant and comes with a removable tray for catching and removal of dead insects. It complies fully with all EU electrical and safety regulations and is on offer to readers for just £19.95 - a SAVING OF £10 off MRRP!

Please send me Insect Trap at £19.95 each inc p+p
I enclose a crossed cheque/PO for pounds on bank payable to: NEWSPAPER PUBLISHING LTD 996
or debit my Access/Visa account by this amount. My card number is

Expiry Date Signature
NAME
ADDRESS
Postage & packing £1.00
Total £
Please tick if you would like to receive our monthly newsletter.
I enclose a crossed cheque/PO for £ to cover postage and packing.
Please tick if you would like to receive our monthly newsletter.

jobs, or hire taxis to scuttle round the city handing out redundancy notices to its own workers. You would have thought that that was a statement of the obvious. At the time, it was called brave.

In the end, our drive for responsible and accountable local government led to the Poll Tax. Whatever one's views looking back on it, there is no doubt that it brought relations between Conservative Governments and local councils to their lowest point.

It is very unlikely that we will ever see eye to eye on the last 18 years. But what I hope we can agree on is the need for a fresh start. Because we have got ourselves into a vicious spiral in which the more power has been centralised, the less interested the electorate have become. Turnout at local elections has fallen steadily. So we need a fresh start.

And we have to begin by putting the relationship between Conservative councillors and our party on a new footing. We have set up a Conservative Councillors Association. But a fresh start in our relationship has to go further. We have to change our whole attitude to local government. I believe the Government's Green Paper on local government is interesting, gimmicky, but dodges a lot of issues.

I hope that the Conservative Party will lead some new thinking about local government.

We are not going to be wedded to all the policies we carried out in office. That is a luxury of election defeat and opposition.

If we can achieve more independence and more accountability for local authorities, with all the tough choices and difficult responsibilities that entails, then we should be able to strip away the controls that fetter councils - including capping.

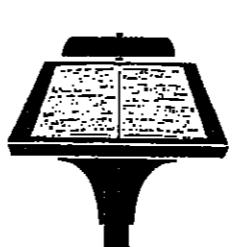
We must also be open about changes to the way local authorities are actually run. If that means executive mayors or citizen juries or even council cabinets, then we should consider these options carefully.

Political opponents though

we may be, I know that many of you have a genuine commitment to local institutions and local democracy.

Today I tell you this: I share that commitment too.

A fresh start for town hall Tories



PODIUM

WILLIAM HAGUE
From a speech by the
Conservative leader to
the Local Government
Association Conference

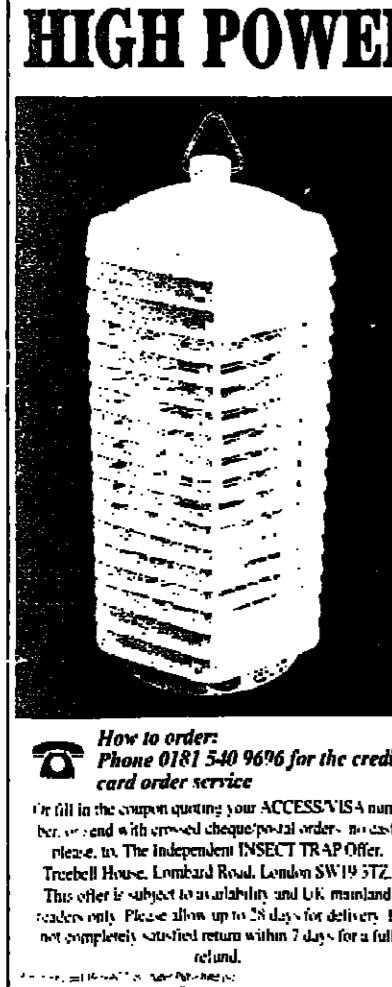
who would not pay a penny of local taxation.

No responsible government could have stood by in the 1980s and let local businesses and local taxpayers be crucified by political extremists in totally irresponsible councils.

Things had reached such a state that even the then Leader of the Labour Party had to tell his own Party Conference that he wouldn't stand by and let councils play politics with people's lives and people's

There is a long tradition in my party of the strong Conservative council making a positive effort to improve life for its citizens. And there has been, until quite recently, a strong Tory tradition in some of our great towns and cities.

The third reason is that we were not and are not willing to trust a version of local democracy in which it was possible to construct an election-winning coalition entirely from voters



مختبر الامان

No need to fake it any longer



SUZANNE MOORE

Viagra, the greatest sexual liberator since the contraceptive pill? Give me a break

A LONG, long time ago I found myself working in a health food store in Manhattan. I used to sell over-priced vitamins to anyone who would have them, herbal "cures" to perk people up and tins of dietary supplements that body-builders use to bulk up with. As the body-builders, mostly huge Puerto Rican guys, were paying for their tins of powdered protein, they used to give me a wink and ask if I had anything for their wives, something for the weekend.

"What sort of thing, sir?"

"Oh, you know, something to make it better... to make her like it more."

If these guys' girlfriends did not enjoy having sex with them, then there was clearly something wrong with these women that the guys appeared to believe could be cured chemically. I used to get away with selling them mega-doses of Vitamin C and some herbal remedy that was said to be "natural cocaine".

Those were the days. For now there really is a wonder drug that makes sex better for everyone. Men, women and goats. And guess what? It is not lager. Viagra comes full of breathy promises. Yes, Yes, Yes... oh Yes, as Molly Bloom might say: Yes! Yes! Yes! pants! *The Mirror*, "Viagra works for women, too. You'll enjoy it more than men; and it's here in September".

So men's demand for Viagra, which is said to be so great that it may bankrupt the Health Service, will be replicated by women. This conjures up wonderful visions of female sex zombies clambering for this Nineties version of "mother's little helpers", these little blue diamonds that will so enhance their sex lives. Whatever else rises, so presumably will shares in Pfizer, the company who distribute Viagra.

But before we get so carried away, shouldn't we be asking ourselves just what we are being asked to swallow alongside these jagged little pills?

There are a number of problems here. The first is the cynicism of the reporting about what Viagra actually does. We know what it does for men. We are allowed to use words such as "impotence" and "penile dysfunction". Indeed the name of the drug itself, sildenafil, has been



Meg Ryan famously proved that women can fake orgasms in 'When Harry Met Sally'

renamed to suggest both virility and a Niagara Falls of sexual pleasure.

What the drug does for women is less obvious, possibly because its effects are ingeniously described in vague phrases such as "genital area". We still apparently have to avoid the word "clitoris" and as long as the clitoris is avoidable, I'm afraid no drug in the world is going to produce the desired effect.

Much of what I have read, though promising to liberate women, is in fact an old, male fantasy. "Can't come, won't come" we could call it. The man has no problem, the woman does, and her lack of enjoyment is spoiling it for both of them. The old solution was faking it, the new one is to pop her a pill and scrape her off the ceiling. This removes all that nonsense about foreplay, technique or even desire. Viagra - the Nineties version of Spanish fly - slip it into her drink and the woman who usually pretends to have a headache will go crazy. Unfortunately, she may end up with a real headache since this, alongside blurred vision, can be a side-effect of this wonder drug.

We are very confused, are we not, about women and sex? While the excitement over Viagra rekindles the myth that men want sex all the time and women never do, except when drugged, we also read of a generation of pint-swilling ladettes who are constantly up for it.

These perfectly normal young women, who like a drink, a fag and a fast car, are being presented as freakish. Their amazing "confessions" that they are not preoccupied solely with ironing and doing the dishes are seen as newsworthy. The old double standards continue. Independent single women who say they like sex are presented as voracious; young single men who say they like sex are entirely ordinary.

Yet both sexes now demand sexual satisfaction as though it were their god-given right. A good sex life is now compulsory and Tessa Jowell will doubtless steer us towards one with some new government guidelines.

It is no longer enough just to have sex; we must have good sex very often, in order to be in peak physical and mental health. The whole range of human sexual experience has now been reduced to the status

of a work-out, a bonk, a shag. Sex is now so good for you that everyone wants sex for the days when it was really bad for you - when sex was dirty, dark and dangerous instead of being a clean and fun way of reducing stress and burning up calories at the same time.

The idea that, in order for everything to function normally, we have to load ourselves up with drugs, is very funny. Drugs, of course, are often used to enhance sexual performance and pleasure, yet no one is suggesting that ecstasy and amyl nitrate be available on the NHS. Some people get in the mood with a nice bottle of wine. Perhaps that, too, should be available on prescription.

However, while I thought that getting in the mood depended on emotional and psychological as well as physical factors, I now understand that it is very simple. Men and women need to move more blood into the pelvic area".

It's all so mechanical - or is that a girlie thing to say? While male sexuality is portrayed as a question of hydraulics, female sexuality is still seen as far more complicated. It

isn't that complicated, but the complexities of female sexual response are not ones that the Viagra debate has brought to the surface. Why? Because Viagra promises to provide men with what they think is of the utmost importance. Erections, any time anywhere.

Viagra not only enhances our sex lives; it reinforces the age-old view that penetration is the be-all and end-all of sex. I am not denying that impotence is a real problem causing pain for both men and women, yet for many years we have known that many women do not climax through penetration alone. This is what the Hite report was all about.

Viagra cannot make people want to have sex if they do not already want to. It cannot make people fancy someone they do not fancy, and it cannot, despite the claims, turn lousy lovers into great ones.

Nor, as yet, is there a wonder drug that stops couples getting sexually bored with each other.

The problem of women unable to achieve orgasm is not merely one of arousal. To reduce all this to a simple question of blood flow is rather depressing. The Sun doctor,

Rosemary Leonard, informs us that "Viagra could help some women achieve orgasm. It could mean men would have to work less hard to give them pleasure."

So this is what is being hailed as the greatest sexual liberator for women since the contraceptive pill?

Something that means that men have to perform less rather than more? Give me a break.

Still, doctors are warning us that once women get hold of this drug there will be no stopping them. Already in America, women are assuming male identities on the Internet in order to obtain the drug. If women can't get it officially, it is assumed that there will be a thriving black market for Viagra.

I wonder if any of us will be able to have sex again without dropping a diamond. How have we managed to muddle along so far? Maybe it's just me, but when orgasms become mandatory, it's enough to make you wish for the old excuse. "Not tonight, darling. I've got a headache." I suppose this will no longer do. Now men and women will have to turn to each and whisper "Not tonight, love. I'm drug-free."

RIGHT OF REPLY

ROBERT SANDALL



The head of public relations for Virgin Records argues that stadium rock is still alive

IF YOU believe the pundits, rock'n'roll has spent much of its short life on death row, but David Thomas has a point: disappointing ticket sales for big outdoor concerts do raise the possibility that the era of stadium rock ushered in by Live Aid may finally be sinking in a sea of mud, dodgy burger stands and inadequate toilet facilities. Other indicators, however, suggest that al fresco concert-goers are not being offered what they want to see. Pop, I propose, is the new rock'n'roll.

Last Sunday, 100,000 fans - an audience as large as Glastonbury - thronged Hyde Park to watch top pop acts bopping on and off the stage to perform a maximum of five songs each. The possibility of getting crushed against the barriers at the front did not deter the youthful supporters of Boyzone, and nobody minded craning their necks for a view of Natalie Imbruglia.

While rock fans are clearly being overfed with opportunities to glimpse glam ironists like Pulp twitching in the distance, pop kids jump at the chance of standing within a quarter of a mile of their idols.

Take the Spice Girls. Having played a couple of dozen arena shows in the spring, the group decided - against the advice of older rock types - to play some British stadium dates. The result was sold-out concerts, at Wembley and Don Valley, Sheffield. As Jim Morrison once put it, "The men don't know but the little girls understand."

Some have started to catch on. Lurking on the bill at last Sunday's popastic Party in the Park were the rockers Del Amitri and the American country band the Mavericks. It wasn't clear whether they were there to capture young converts, or to comfort the parents. Either way it was good, if strange, to see them investing in the future of stadium pop.

Observing the sons of Ulster

FRIDAY BOOK

ULSTER LOYALISM
AND THE BRITISH MEDIA
BY ALAN F PARKINSON. FOUR COURTS PRESS. £14.95



A recent Orange Order parade at Drumreagh

IRISH REPUBLICANS kill our soldiers, wreck our capital city, and murder our politicians. Ulster unionists oppose Irish republicanism. On the principle that my enemy's enemy is my friend, we might expect unionists to fare well in press and television coverage. Alan Parkinson analyses 26 years of journalism to prove that supposition wrong.

The unionist cause is often ignored. Over the period, *Panorama* made 26 films about nationalists and only 14 about the larger unionist population. The desire to expose wrongdoing in high places means that much reporting is critical of the state; because unionists are pro-state, that reporting does unionism no favours.

When programmes report on social issues such as poverty, they show nationalist poverty and thus leave the impression that Northern Ireland's Protestants are a privileged "aristocracy of labour".

The general drift of most English journalism is "a pox on both your houses". Terrorism (especially when it happens in England) is bad; peace process is good. Compromise is good; unionists are bad because they will not compromise. Twenty years of professional interest in Northern Ireland persuaded me that, by and large, Parkinson is right in his description of media attitudes. But what explains them?

Unionists must take some of the blame. When they ruled Northern Ireland, they did not need to persuade. When they were displaced, they did not believe they could persuade and so did not try. Internal divisions do not help. Ian Paisley's attacks on other unionist leaders may be motivated by high principle but can be read as a mark of group pathology: intransigent and bloody-minded.

Until recently, unionists failed to separate clearly the constitutional issue from ethnic interest. The desire

FRIDAY POEM

NIGHTSONG: CITY
BY DENNIS BRUTUS (SOUTH AFRICA)

Sleep well, my love, sleep well:
the harbour lights glaze over restless docks,
police cars cockroach through the tunnel streets

from the shanties creaking iron-sheets
violence like a bug-infested rag is tossed
and fear is imminent as sound in the wind-swing bell:

the long day's anger pants from sand and rocks;
but for this breathing night at least,
my land, my love, sleep well.

This is our final selection from the new edition of *The Penguin Book of Modern African Poetry*, edited by Gerald Moore and Ulli Beier (Penguin, £9.99).

FAMINE IN SUDAN

The situation in Sudan is worsening. Hundreds of thousands of innocent people, driven from their homes by the civil war, now face starvation.

The Red Cross is already providing emergency aid. But it's now clear that September's harvest will be badly disrupted by the civil war and late rains. The Sudanese urgently need tools and seeds to salvage their crops and feed their children. Only your donation can provide these vital supplies.

Just £25.00 can provide enough medical aid, seeds and tools to make a real difference. Please give as much as you can. Your donation will save lives.

British Red Cross
Registered Charity No. 220249

0345 315 315

Please call now to your credit or debit card.

Or send a cheque or postal order with the coupon below.

Yes I want to help.

I enclose a cheque / postal order (payable to British Red Cross) for

£250 £50 £25 £10 Other £ _____

I'd like debit my Visa / Mastercard / Amex / Diners Club / Switch Card

Expiry date _____ Switch issue no. _____ Today's date _____

Signature _____

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____ Tel _____

Yes, please send this coupon with your donation to THE BRITISH RED CROSS, 100 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON, W1A 2AB. 10% of donations to the British Red Cross goes to the International Committee of the Red Cross. Please add a third as much again through Gift Aid as we can claim back the tax. I enclose my Gift Aid declaration and my donation is further tax-relieved via the British Red Cross.

STEVE BRUCE

BRITISH RED CROSS, NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, 9 CROSSTON CRESCE, LONDON SW1X 7EE

The Rev J. Eirian Davies

CLERGYMAN AND poet, J. Eirian Davies combined the best of the religious and literary traditions of Wales, often in a challenging and sometimes provocative way that won him the respect of his co-religionists and fellow writers.

For most of his life a minister of the Presbyterian Church in Wales (Calvinistic Methodist), he was to be found on the more radical wing of that somewhat conservative Concession, winning a reputation as a fiery preacher who was noted for his outspokenly liberal views and commitment to the cause of Plaid Cymru. His poetry, too, while touching its cap to traditional forms such as the *englyn* and sonnet, was more typically free-wheeling and "open-field" than that of many of his contemporaries and he was not averse to writing for public performance and radio. No preacher poet he.

Born at Nantgaredig in rural, Welsh-speaking Carmarthenshire, James Eirian Davies was educated at Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Carmarthen, and the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth. He came to prominence as a poet while still an undergraduate, winning the Chair and Crown in the Students' Eisteddfod which has been the cradle of many a Welsh writer. His first volume, *Awen y Wawr* ("Dawn Muse"), was published in 1947 by Kelyd Rhys at the now legendary Druid Press, which also brought out R.S. Thomas's first book, *The Stones of the Field* (1946).

Davies's second volume, *Can Galed* ("Hard Song", 1974), contains his best work, in particular the apparently naive but, in fact, highly skillful use of rhyming couplets which he, like so many of our poets, learned from T.H. Parry-Williams and other poems in what is still called in Welsh prosody *vers libre* – to distinguish it from writing in the centuries-old strict metres.

The book also includes pieces he wrote for the Dial-a-Poem scheme, the first of its kind in these islands when it was launched in Cardiff in 1970, and another "Rhaid i mi brynu sgidaic" ("I'll Have to Buy Some Shoes"), which I commissioned for an open-air reading organised by the Arts Council on the field of the National Eisteddfod in 1971. I remember Eirian in the Garthai-red shirt he often wore, declaiming his poem to a small cluster of mildly astonished bystanders with all the conviction and eloquence of which he was capable.

This willingness to experiment and to use his deeply resonant voice in the delivery of hard-hitting poems with a distinct social message was a hallmark of all Eirian Davies's work and it brought him into the avant-garde of Welsh literary life if not always into the favour of the diaconate. Another of his characteristics, doubtless a reflection of his genial and egalitarian nature, was to employ the second person singular pronoun *ti* ("thou"), which Welsh like French has kept, rather than the more formal *chwi* ("you"), when addressing friend and stranger alike.

His ministries were at Hirwaun in Glamorgan, Brynaman in Carmarthenshire and Mold in Flintshire – all urban places where he seemed most at home. It was while living in the last-named town that he served, from 1978 to 1982, as general factotum to his wife, Jennie, in her editorship of *Y Ffur*, the Welsh national weekly magazine, contributing a racy column that became

His willingness to experiment brought Davies into the avant-garde of Welsh literary life, if not always into the favour of the diaconate

essential reading for anyone with an interest in Welsh affairs. This work came to an abrupt end with her death.

Some critics have taken the view that Eirian Davies was for too long in the shadow of his wife, a woman of formidable intellect and charismatic personality who was one of the most brilliant journalists ever produced in the Welsh language. She was also, during the late 1950s, a leading member of Plaid Cymru and the party's candidate in Carmarthenshire, increasing its vote in constituency which was eventually won by Gwynfor Evans in 1966. Davies certainly supported his wife in all her many activities, both journalistic and political, perhaps devoting time and en-

ergy to the role which might otherwise have gone into poetry. But it was his choice to put his shoulder to the wheel in these ways, at the expense of his own writing.

His last two collections, *Cyfr o Gerrid* ("A Volume of Poems", 1985) and *Awen y Hwyr* ("Evening Muse", 1991), are more daringly contemplative than his finest work, though not in any dogmatic way, and were written out of the loss he suffered by his wife's death.

They had two sons, Siôn Eirian is a freestyle playwright based in Cardiff and Guto Eirian a railway worker at Pontypridd. Both have been active with the Welsh Republican Movement, to which their father was briefly attracted dur-

ing the 1950s, and, while perhaps having rejected much of what he stood for as a clergyman, are their father's sons in their left-wing outlook and their readiness, in E's phrase, "against the sceptred myth to hold the golden heresy of truth".

Meic Stephens

James Eirian Davies, clergyman and poet; born Nantgaredig, Carmarthenshire 28 May 1918; Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Wales at Hirwaun 1942-54; Brynaman 1955-61, Mold 1962-81; married 1949 Jennie Howells (died 1982; two sons); died Fairfach, Carmarthenshire 5 July 1998.



Eirian Davies with his wife Jennie, sometime editor of *Y Ffur*, the Welsh national weekly, and son Siôn, now a playwright, at an Eisteddfod

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS

BIRTHS

CONSTANT: Oliver Gelli Meyricke, to Minette and Rory, on 26 June, in Pau, France, a brother for Patrick.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

The Duke of Kent, President-in-Chief, British Racing Drivers' Club, attends the practice sessions of the British Grand Prix, Silverstone Circuit, Northamptonshire; and, as Royal Fellow, Royal Academy of Engineering, attends a soirée at Cranfield University, Bedfordshire.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am; 1st Battalion Coldstream Guards mounts the Queen's Guard, at Buckingham Palace, 9am.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR GAZETTE BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding anniversaries, In memoriam) are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra). OTHER Gazette announcements (notices, functions, forthcoming marriages, marriages), which must be submitted in writing, are charged at £1.00 a line, VAT extra. Always include a daytime telephone number.

The Independent's main switchboard number is 0171-293 2000. The OBITUARIES e-mail address is obituaries@independent.co.uk

BIRTHDAYS

Mr James Aldridge, writer, 80; Mr John Arkell, Headmaster, Gresham's School, Holt, Norfolk, 59; Mr Tony Baldry MP, 48; Mr Tommy Carmody, jockey, 42; Sir John Cockram, former chairman, Rickmansworth Water Co, 90; Sir Arthur Collins, solicitor, 87; Lord Desai, Professor of Economics, London School of Economics and Political Science, 58; Mr Dawie de Villiers, South African diplomat and politician, 58; Mr John Dunlop, racehorse trainer, 59; Mrs Winifred Ewing, MEP, 69; Mr Denzil Freeth, former MP, 74; Mr Sunil Gavaskar, cricketer, 49; Mr Graham Johnson, pianist, 48; Sir George Kenyon, former chairman, William Kenyon & Sons, 86; Lord Lambton, former government minister, 78; Professor Ian Lucas, agriculturalist, 72; Sir Kit McMahon, former chairman, the Midland Bank, 71; Mr John Malby, former Chairman, United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority, 70; The Very Rev Ivan Neill, former chaplain to the Queen, 86; Sir Leslie Porter, former president, Tesco, 76; Lord Roberts of Conwy, former MP, 68; Mr Keith Starkpole, cricketer, 58; Dr Gavin Strang MP, Minister of Transport, 55; Miss Josephine Veasey, opera singer, 68; Miss Virginia Wade, tennis player, 53; Mr Ian Wallace, actor, broadcaster and concert singer, 78; Maj-Gen Sir Philip Ward, Lord-Lieutenant of West Sussex, 74; Sir Reginald Wilson, chartered accountant and former company chairman, 93; Mrs Rosemary Wolff, primary school manager, 72; Maj-Gen Sir Brian Wyldboye-Smith, 85.

ANNIVERSARIES

Births: John Calvin, religious reformer, 1509; Mrs Aphra Behn, playwright and novelist, baptised 1640; Sir William Blackstone, jurist, Jane Grey was proclaimed

GAZETTE

QUEEN OF ENGLAND, 1553:

Peter III, Tsar of Russia, was dethroned, 1762; Wyoming became the 44th of the United States, 1890; the first London performance of the comic opera *El Capitan* was staged, 1899; Mongolia was proclaimed an independent state, 1921; Rheims Cathedral was reopened after restoration from First World War bomb damage, 1938; the Battle of Britain began, 1940; the Allied invasion of Sicily began, 1943; the first parking meters were installed in London, 1958; the communications satellite Telstar was launched, 1962; the Cable and Broadcasting Act was passed, permitting cable television to be operated, 1984. Today is the Feast Day of St Amelberga, Saints Rufina and Secunda, The Seven Brothers and St Felicity.

LECTURES

National Gallery: Colin Wiggins, "Sight 'em, Monet: What an eye!", 1pm; Victoria and Albert Museum: Matthew Cook, "Iron-work: decorative techniques", 2pm.

LUNCHEONS

Corporation of London: Mr Keiko Fujimori, President of the Republic of Peru and the First Lady, Mrs Fujimori, were the guests of honour at a luncheon held yesterday at the Guildhall, London EC2. Sir Richard Nichols, Lord Mayor of London, and Lady Nichols, the Lady Mayoress, received the guests.

DINNERS

HMS Victory: Admiral Sir John Brigstocke, Second Sea Lord and Commander-in-Chief Naval Home Command, and Lady Brigstocke were the hosts at a dinner held yesterday evening in HMS Victory at

PORTSMOUTH NAVAL BASE.

Among those present were: Mr John H. Dalton, Secretary of the US Navy and Mrs Dalton; Sir Hugh Cubitt, Chairman of Hovis Brothers Group, and Lady Cubitt; Mr and Mrs Peter Seccombe, Head Office and General Manager; The Very Rev Michael York, Provost of Portsmouth, and Mrs York; Lt-Col Michael Hayes MP and Mrs Robinson-Milne.

CARMEN'S COMPANY

The following elections have been made for the ensuing year by the Worshipful Company of Carmen:

Mr B. J. Hooper, Master; Mr J. M. Silverman, Senior Warden; Mr J. A. T. Sykes, Junior Warden.

Mr D. W. G. Chidgey MP, Mr S. J. Norris, Mr A. M. Callaghan and Major J. H. Burgess have been clothed with the livery of the company.

ASSISTANT RECORDERS

The following have been appointed Assistant Recorders on the Midland and Oxford Circuit:

Mr Jonathan Lester Baker; Mr James Michael Burbridge; Judge Martin John Cardinal; Mr Graham Wilson Cull; Mr Gregory David Mark Dickinson; Mr Roger Kenneth Evans; Mr Nigel Gravenor; Mr Alan John Hart; Mr Singh Khalsa; Mr Colin Richard Mackintosh; Miss Sarah Ruth Paneth; Mr Paul Michael Pittaway; Mr Timothy John Spencer.

SYNAGOGUE SERVICES

Details of synagogue services to be held tomorrow may be obtained by telephoning the following. Sabbath begins in London at 9.02pm.

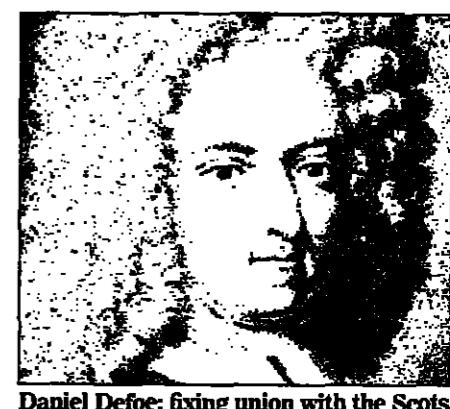
United Synagogues: 0181-343 8982; Federation of Synagogues: 0181-202 2263; Union of Liberal and Progressive Synagogues: 0171-580 1683; Reform Synagogues of Great Britain: 0181-349 4731; Spanish and Portuguese Jews Congregation: 0171-289 2573; New London Synagogue (Masorti): 0171-328 1026.

OBITUARIES/7

HISTORICAL NOTES

RICHARD WEST

Braggings of an 18th-century lobbyist



Daniel Defoe: fixing union with the Scots

THE DUTCH Prince William of Orange, who led the invasion of England in 1688 and came to the throne as William III, is still often blamed for the seemingly endless feud between England and Ireland but seldom given credit for the equally long friendship and peace between England and Scotland.

King William regarded the Irish, the Scots and the English with equal coldness but wanted to see them united with Holland against the military threat from Louis XIV of France. William had gone into Ireland not for the sake of the people who now proclaim themselves as "Orangemen" but to crush a rebellion by the deposed James II. His purpose in Scotland was to frustrate James's Roman Catholic and Highland supporters, the "Jacobites". To this end, William restored the Scottish Parliament and gave to the Presbyterian Church of Scotland the status of an established religion, which it enjoys to this day.

When William of Orange lay on his deathbed at Kensington Palace in February 1702, he dictated a letter urging Parliament to press ahead for union with Scotland. The resulting Act of Union of 1707 was largely the work of William of Orange's friend, adviser and propagandist the pamphleteer Daniel Defoe, who later won fame as the author of *Robinson Crusoe*.

When Defoe went to Edinburgh in 1706, he posed as a man on the run from creditors. Like all the best cover stories, it was essentially true. He had been bankrupted in 1694, and was to be hounded by creditors till his death in 1731. When the High Church Tories wanted to outlaw his fellow Nonconformists in 1702, Defoe had replied with a lampoon called *The Shortest Way with the Dissenters* (i.e. send them all to the gallows). Unfortunately for Defoe, both his friends and enemies took the satire seriously. He was arrested, tried at the Old Bailey and sentenced to the pillory and Newgate Prison.

Defoe was rescued from Newgate by Queen Anne and her Tory secretary of state Robert Harley, who saw the value of a literary man party politics, also employing Defoe's enemy Jonathan Swift. Harley financed Defoe's thrice-weekly paper the *Review* and sent him round England to gather intelligence as well as material for his masterpiece *A Tour of the Whole Island of Great Britain* (1724-26).

Richard West is author of *The Life and Strange Surprising Adventures of Daniel Defoe* (Flamingo, £8.99)

Councils may charge disabled for services

FRIDAY LAW REPORT

10 JULY 1998

Regina v Powys County Council, ex parte Hambidge Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Peter Gibson, Lord Justice Schiemann and Lord Justice Mantell) 2 July 1998

SCHEDULE 8 TO THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT 1977...

The crucial question was whether the community care services which the disabled received were "provided under" any of the enactments listed in section 17(2), it being common ground that they were not entitled to do so under the provisions of section 17 of the Health and Social Services and Social Security Adjudications Act 1983. The appellant appealed.

Richard Gordon QC and Stephen Cragg (Thurpes, Hereford) for the appellant; Mr James Lewis (Legal Dept, Powys County Council); for the Council; Nigel Pleming QC and Steven Kovats (Treasury Solicitor) for the Secretary of State as intervener.

It had been submitted for the appellant that the services in question were "provided under" the 1970 Act, which was not one of the enactments listed in section 17(2) of the 1983 Act. The judge had, however, held that although section 2 of the 1970 Act imposed a duty on local authorities to make arrangements for the provision of some services, including those with which the present case was concerned, which could give rise to a right of enforcement in an individual.

All that the Health and Social Services and Social Security Adjudications Act 1983 had done was of relevance to the present issue was to repeal the original provisions which had entitled the authority to charge, namely section 29(5) of the National Assistance Act 1948 and Schedule 8, paragraph 3(2) of the National Health Service Act 1977, and to replace them by a new provision.

Kate O'Hanlon, Barrister

Lord Justice Schiemann said that section 17 of the 1983 Act provided:

(1) Subject to subsection (3) below, an authority providing a service to which this section applies may recover such charge (if any) for it as they consider reasonable.

(2) This section applies to services provided under the following enactments – (a) section 29 of the National Assistance Act 1948...

THE GRADUAL drift in meaning of today's word provides a fine example of the way language evolves.

In the middle of the 18th century a *lobby* was a place of monastic seclusion (from the medieval Latin *lobium*, a cloister). Shakespeare ("How in our voyaging Lobby has thou stood?") brought it out

century America the term was extended to apply to the people who wait in the lobby to influence politicians. By 1850 the verb to *lobby* was used to refer to an attempt to influence.

The latest twist, dating back only to 1938, is to use the noun *lobby* to mean an organised mass event for the purpose of lobbying.

WORDS

WILLIAM HARTSTON

lobby, n. or v.

of the monastery to mean any corridor or ante-room.

As early as 1646, the public hall of the House of Commons was called the *Lobby* and in early-19th-

The cruel myth of the other woman

As Camilla Parker Bowles will know, stepmothers are always wicked in fairy tales. But it doesn't have to be this way. By Dave Hill

SO PRINCE William has met Camilla Parker-Bowles and everyone is appalled. The timing, it seems, is the problem for the famed anonymous friends of the late Diana, Princess of Wales, one of whom informed the *Daily Mail* that it is "astonishingly insensitive... that such a meeting should happen before the first anniversary of Diana's death".

Others are appalled for rather different reasons. Some are appalled by Mrs Parker-Bowles and that's all there is to it. Others, such as me, are appalled by the picture conjured up by descriptions of these meetings.

The teenage heir has apparently "taken tea" with his pa's cherie, the pearl-strung former cuckoo in his mother's loveless nest.

Perhaps it was all PG Tips and jammy dodgers, but the term "taking tea" suggests something a lot less chummy; an occasion marked by cultivated throat-clearing and the nervous rattle of sugar tongs on fine china. Still, before we rush to the now-standard People's Judgement that Charles and Camilla, being terminal toffs, were simply born to get this stuff all wrong, let us pause for tender reflection.

The circumstances of these pained aristos are certainly unique, but the heart of their situation still ought to strike up an empathetic beat. The Wills-Camilla encounters mark the pair's first, fearful attempt to build a potential stepchild-

stepparent relationship, their preliminary tip-toe into an emotional terrain filled with gaping gulfs and lurking sloughs.

It will be a long, strange trip dotted with ambiguous signposts. Their one consolation is that they will not be alone. Far from it.

Stepfamilies are the booming product of the distressing modern tendency of conventional families to fall apart. Around one in eight children is likely to grow up in one, and over one million were doing so at the beginning of the Nineties. Yet they also comprise the most neglected element in the whole family debate (or

the unseemly squabble that often passes for one), being widely misunderstood, hugely under-supported and, of course, saddled with a terribly bad press.

The last has been so for centuries in the case of stepmothers – ever heard a fairy tale in which she wasn't wicked? More recently, stepfathers have been the subject of anxious attention, and rightly so. A study in 1986 reached the shocking

conclusion that one in 11 stepfathers had sexual contact of some kind with his stepdaughter before she was 14 years old and that ratio was about twice as high when the definition of "stepfather" was taken to include any man who lived in a household as the mother's partner, however briefly, as well as those who had literally "stepped in" to the biological father's shoes.

The grim lesson of these statistics is that any lone mother, in particular the lone mother of a daughter (boys are more likely to be sexually abused outside their families), should exercise extreme caution before inviting a new man to share her household. It also provides the most perturbing example of how unhealthy relationships within stepfamilies can be.

Yet while it would be brainless to deny that stepfamilies can be problematic, sometimes horrifyingly so, for all their members – and for others with ties to them who no longer live in the same home – it is also possible for a stepfamily to be a suc-

cessful unit for all those in it. The question is, how can it be made so?

There are, of course, no easy answers. For a start, the term "stepfamily" describes many configurations. The National Stepfamily Association has identified no less than 72, ranging from those containing a couple, their respective children from previous relationships and those they have had together, to couples who live with no children at all, but are often visited by a child or children from a previous relationship. And that is just the heterosexuals. Stepfamilies may be created by lone parenthood, separation, divorce or bereavement, and stepchildren can be full or part-time members of a household. Parents may also become stepchildren if one of their own parents is parted by whatever cause, including death, and then re-partner. The "blended families" can come in many flavours.

Yet whichever sort of stepfamily you think of, the essentials of the engagement which has already taken place between Parker-Bowles and Windsor junior is almost unavoidable. At some point, one or both biological parents are likely to have to say in their children words to the effect of "this is my new sweetheart" and think thoughts to the effect of "dear God, what do they think?". When is the right time for such delicate introductions? And how on Earth do you get it right?



Windsor junior is almost unavoidably. At some point, one or both biological parents are likely to have to say in their children words to the effect of "this is my new sweetheart" and think thoughts to the effect of "dear God, what do they think?". When is the right time for such delicate introductions? And how on Earth do you get it right?

My own experience suggests that it is a good idea if possible to prepare the ground carefully in advance. Not that my experience was archetypal, particularly for a man. When my ex-partner and I split up it was she rather than I who left the family home to live with someone else – very sensibly, since you ask – and we proceeded to share the care of our three children exactly equally.

After 18 rather lonely and financially challenging months I was fortunate – very fortunate – to begin a serious relationship with a woman who was not only pleased to spend the time of day and night with me, but was even willing to abandon her outrageous "ladette" lifestyle not really move into my home with all the responsibilities that entailed.

Not immediately, though. For several months she was simply a frequent and welcome visitor who my daughter valued for her make-up bag, and who my sons worked out could be prevailed upon not to read them bedtime stories, but even to participate in games of bedroom football. One day, in her absence, I asked the children how they would feel if she lived in our house all the time. They all said "yes" and cheered. She moved in a few weeks later and, sometimes to my amazement, has been there ever since.

I will not pretend that everything in the stepparden is always rosy. Nor will I pretend that my relationship with the adult members of the children's other stepfamilies are ideal. But I will say that the arrangement we have ended up with is the best possible for the children in all of the circumstances.

And I would add the general point that stepparents who work hard at being the sort of grown-ups their stepchildren need them to be can provide those children with something special which they would not otherwise have had.

If Camilla Parker-Bowles ends up doing the same for William and Harry, and is seen to do so, she will have done her country a service which generations of upright blue-bloods have never managed before.

Who are you calling a buxom wench?

Now we know skinny models encourage anorexia, when will fashion use 'normal' sized women? Never, says Tamsin Blanchard

SO SOPHIE Dahl, the first size 14 supermodel, was not enough. For a brief period, there was a glimmer of hope: a normal-sized girl with a high profile in the modelling world. She is what the British Medical Association would describe as a "buxom wench" (how patronising). If they had their way, Sophie Dahl would be selling us washing-up liquid, stripping off to sell the latest Citroën and being picked up in bars by men who drink real ale.

Then there was Sara Morrison. Remember her? She was the girl the photographer Nick Knight found shopping in a Merseyside precinct and whose curvaceous body was splashed across the pages of *Vogue*. That shoot prompted another debate about the anorexic fashion model syndrome. *Vogue* was accused of tokenism, that this was a one-off and big models were not about to enter the pages on a regular basis. We saw Sophie Dahl nude in *i-D* – again photographed by Nick Knight. Her size 14 curves were not sufficient and she was computer-enhanced to add extra volume. Imagine that? Normally, fashion pictures are retouched to skim a bit off the hips here or a touch of cellulite there. Do that to Kate Moss and you would never work again.

And sure enough, it was all a fad. Women aren't getting any slimmer – the average size is still closer to Dahl or Morrison than to Jodie Kidd – but the advertising industry continues to use slim women to sell their products. *Vogue* has not used another model over a size 10 since – and nor have any of their advertisers. And Dahl has been submitted to a series of jobs where she is not photographed as a normal-sized woman (if you can call a six-foot-something size fourteen woman "normal")



Sophie Dahl, the size 14 supermodel

but as "larger than life" or just plain fat. The fashion and advertising industries have made Dahl as much a freak stereotype as any skinny model. It seems there is only enough room on a model agent's books for one girl over size 14 at a time.

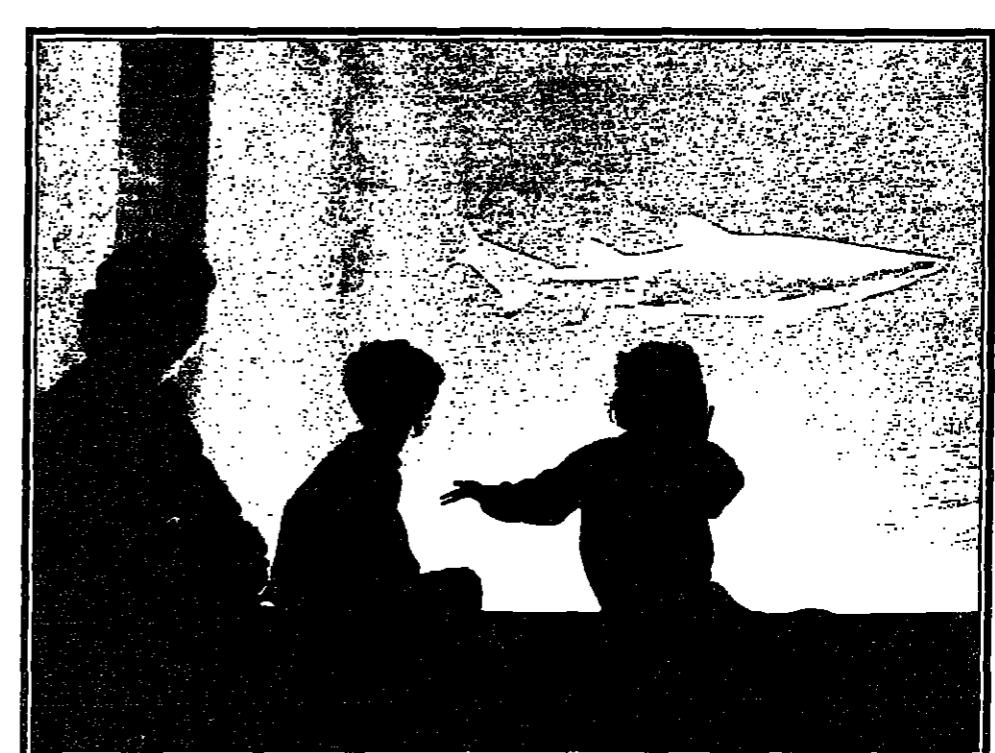
I do not accept that the buck stops with fashion editors and their glossy magazines. Nor is it the fault of model agents. They are simply working to market forces, supply and demand and all that. Advertising casting agents do not have to book stick-thin models. If Saatchi & Saatchi or Erickson McCann wanted a girl with three heads and four toes for a big advertising campaign, you can bet that a model agent somewhere would find her. Photographers too have a lot of power. Nick Knight has done his bit and will no doubt continue challenging stereotypes of shape and size. But when Irving Penn recently photographed Sara Morrison nude for American *Vogue*, the picture was used, not for fashion, but for a feature on slimming pills. "Irving Penn fell in love with Sara Morrison's body," says Alison Bramwell, director of Morrison's agency,

its money where its mouth is however, and launch an ad campaign using "larger" ie normal sized women. They are as guilty as anyone for using stereotypically slim women. Excel's 25 models who range in size from 14 to 18, have enough work to keep them busy – mainly in Italy, Germany and the US. But because they are big sizes, they get lower rates than their thinner counterparts who command higher fees for a day's work.

"I agree with what the BMA are saying," says Alison Bramwell. "But I don't think they should be using words like 'buxom' and 'wench'." No woman wants to be referred to in those terms and a woman who is called a "buxom wench" is far more likely to go on a crash diet if she looks at a picture of a slim model in a fashion magazine.

The whole issue is a thorny one. It involves not just clothing manufacturers, fashion designers, magazines and advertisers, but the all pervasive image of Hollywood stars (how many leading ladies are what the BMA would call "buxom") and the pop music industry. Iain R Webb, fashion director of *Elle* magazine says "we try to make sure we use girls who aren't overly skinny. If a girl is right for a story, we'll use her. I don't think using a token size 16 model is the answer." In the August issue, there is a reader's letter that states: "I don't agree that fashion magazines should feature more realistic ie older, heavier women. If I wanted to see more of that, I would just have to look in the mirror and save my £5.00." As Webb says: "We try to give something that will appeal to everyone. Whatever you do, you will always be accused of alienating somebody."

THIS WEEK IN THE SEVEN-SECTION INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY



GREAT DAYS OUT

The essential guide for the summer holidays produced in conjunction with

KidsOut

Plus: Summer reading special – new stories and poems from some of Britain's brightest writing talent

A few brown pots short of a picnic

From giant bees to broken bottles, young British designers have an agenda that challenges convention and seeks to provoke. By Alan Powers

EXHIBITIONS AT THE Crafts Council sometimes have the dialectic quality of tennis. In one half of the court are a set of assumptions about what crafts are, or ought to be – we might call it the "brown pot school" for short. And at the other end is something which, in order to have a game, can be anything, provided it is not a brown pot.

The Crafts Council puts them into play quite even-handedly, because the important thing is to keep the ball rolling, although the game has been going on for at least 20 years. Still, nobody ever worries that tennis will go out of date.

"No Picnic" is an anti-“brown pot” exhibition, hard-edged and modern, as perhaps one can tell from the poster image of a bright blue bird on a leafy stem. The “picnickers” are aged between 25 and 35, and work in furniture, glass, textiles, jewellery, metalwork and text.

The title describes the difficulties of working in the design field as a maker of one-offs and small batches, refusing to compromise with the market and maintaining integrity as a critic of society.

If this sounds similar to the self-description of “brown pot” craftspeople, too, then one must realise that the No Picnickers are all keen on paradox – they are quite happy to play tennis with themselves, never letting the inner contradictions of their work and the fact that they themselves are doing it lie still for even a moment. As John Heath Stubbs once wrote: “If poems were Cadillacs, poets would probably drive them to the public mischief.”

Some objects in the exhibition are uncertain whether they are, figuratively speaking, poems or cars. Anand Zenz, who once designed Belgo Nord in London's Chalk Farm, now makes T-shirts with slogans on

them, more challenging than the narcoleptic fine art slogans of Jenny Holzer, but still capable of development. Jenny Potter's metal objects, including a silver Tetrapak, use words playing on the themes of packaging and other subliminal verbal intrusions on our lives.

The jewellery by Shaun Leane brings to the picnic a variety of cage-like restraints for body or head, and some sharp, spiked earrings and bracelets which could repel unwanted advances.

Shelley Fox's dresses, on the other hand, invite touch with braille patterns in grey felt and surgical bandaging material, while Rebecca Earley shows textiles which are beautiful as well as provocative, particularly the patterns made by heat photograph from natural plant forms onto indigo.

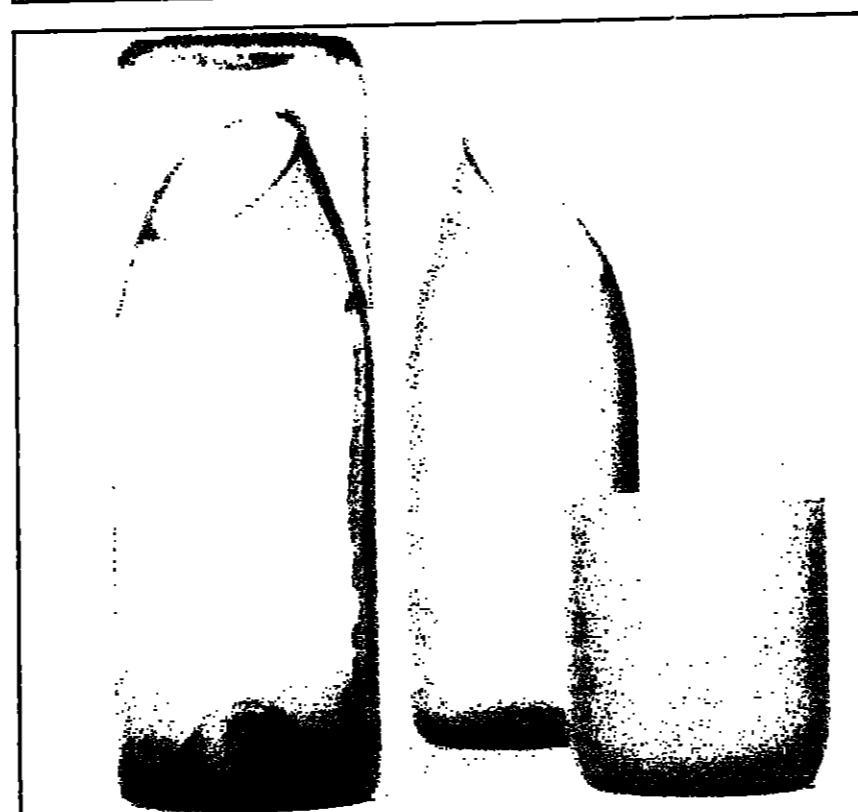
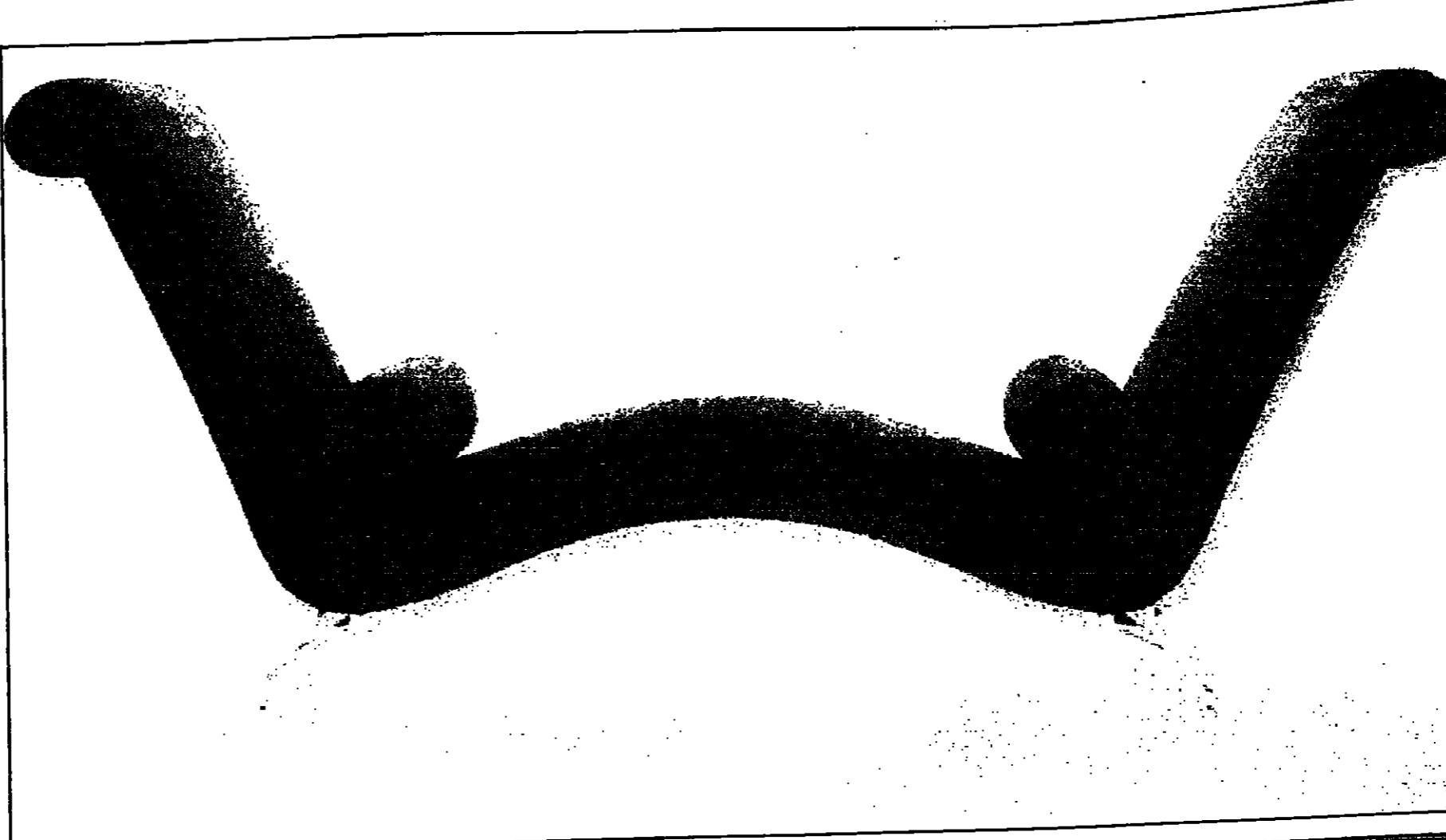
Timorous Beasties is a two-man textile design practice from Glasgow which uses a variety of printed imagery. This includes a design of giant bees which might have given nightmares to Napoleon; the French Emperor covered his furniture with his own, more discreet, bee emblem.

Precious McBane is a similarly jokey combination: designers of one-of-a-kind furniture pieces who deliberately mix their metaphors.

Philosophers tend to use tables as token objects in discussions of reality and existence, and Michael Anastassiades lets no piece of furniture escape his ontological scrutiny. Here he shows side-tables which double as something else – mirror, alarm clock, or light.

Tord Boontje makes elegant furniture from the cheapest sections of wood, with the additions of other “found” materials.

Thoroughly practical chairs are padded with army blankets and held down with bindings of tough plastic



Top: sofa by Precious McBane; above left, broken bottle effect by TranSGlass; above right, Napoleon's nightmare – a giant bee motif designed by Timorous Beasties

package tape. These are in the spirit of the architect Walter Segal's self-build houses of the 1970s and his belief that minimalism does not have to be the luxury of millionaires.

The message comes over clearly that this is craft, but not as you know it. “No Picnic” emphasises the growing articulateness in all sections of the craft world, which has rediscovered what William Morris knew 100 years ago – that if you are free in your work, you can, if you wish, begin to change the world.

Perhaps only recently have we even begun to acquire the theoretical know-how to see objects not just as conveniences or status symbols, but as essential aspects of our formation of self and of the world. That is a truth that children know instinctively and then forget, unless they themselves become makers.

If the work in “No Picnic” is at times extreme and irrational, it is a comment on the irrationality of the social world in which it is created. The verbal articulacy and skills in

marketing are now standard among many young designer-makers, and these help to give added edge to the long and arduous struggle against the oppression of master and man in capitalism, to which is now added the heaving monster engines of consumption.

While craft-making has been promoted as valuable small business (which is in itself a questionable claim), it has still to achieve the intellectual status of the more established arts disciplines – those which

can in fact properly be described as “useless”. The message here is clear and stark: “Make your objects useful and provocative, so that people will want to have them”. On the whole, that message looks like succeeding.

While the country as a whole seems to be full of appalling kitsch going under the name of craft, these urban 20- and 30-somethings are perhaps unnecessarily afraid of teneliness and beauty.

In a world of speaking objects,

they are raising their voices to be heard. They have learnt that the knife of social criticism is best twisted with a smile. Yet rather than continuing to play in the Crafts Tennis Tournament, “No Picnic” is more like the tennis net itself – the point of dialectical resolution between the eternal opposites.

No Picnic runs until 30 August at the Crafts Council Gallery, 44A Pentonville Road, London N1 (0171 278 7700)

THE MILLENNIUM COLLECTION

NO 4: THE EUROSTAR TRAIN



So far, more than 200 millennium products have been chosen for their excellent design. Each week we will examine one of them.

DESIGN RARELY changes the way people think and operate. Yet, the Eurostar, whose revolutionary design and concept have been honoured with an inclusion in the Millennium Collection, has completely altered the way many Britons feel about Europe.

In one fell swoop – and a lot of planning, digging and investing – the rail service has forever linked the United Kingdom to the rest of Europe and put an end to the old-fashioned little Englander, “fog in the Channel, Continent cut off” way of thinking.

The train, whose characteristic nose cone now more famous than Eric Cantona TV ads, looks beautiful as it speeds through the flat countryside of northern France.

but the automatic check-in, requiring people to punch in their tickets (a strange hybrid of London Underground ticket barriers and the French railways’ compulsory postage) has not exactly been conceived with luggage-carrying in mind.

Even suspended metal fish ornaments will not win any awards for the claustrophobic

view through the nose cone was breathtaking as we sped along at 300kph. Unfortunately, in Britain top speed is only 120kph. The service offers passengers a smooth ride, silent and comfortable, though noisy for people outside, whose gardens and houses back on to the train route.

It has cut travel times between the European capitals and those weekending Parisians and Bruxellois probably played a major part in the rise of Cool Britannia.

The Eurostar’s biggest achievement might yet be to put an end to clichés such as “Britain and Europe”, which newscasters and journalists fall back on all too easily.

It should be Britain and the rest of Europe. With Eurostar, both an ingenious mode of transport and a potent symbol of unity, the UK has really become part of a greater Europe.

PIERRE PERRONE

DESIGN LINES

ALEX GARLAND

At the beginning of Alex Garland's bestselling novel *The Beach* (published by Penguin £5.99), Richard checks into a seedy Bangkok hotel. It proves to be a fateful move. The disturbed occupant of the next door room commits suicide – but not before giving Richard a map to a mythical paradise beach.

‘QUARTER OF an hour later I was settling into a room that was little larger than a double bed. I can be accurate about it because there was a double bed in the room, and on each of its four sides was a foot of space. My backpack could just slide in the gap.

One wall was concrete – the side of the building. The others were formica and bare. They moved when I touched them. I had the feeling that if I leaned against one it would

fall over and maybe hit another, and the walls of the neighbouring rooms would collapse like dominoes.

Just short of the ceiling, the walls stopped, and covering the space was a strip of metal mosquito netting. The netting almost upheld the illusion of a confined, personal area – until I lay down on the bed. As soon as I relaxed, stopped moving, I began to hear cockroaches scuttling round the other rooms.

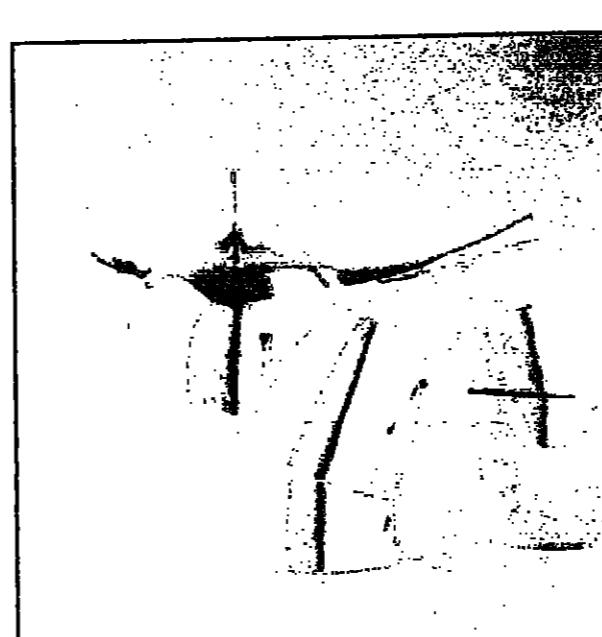
Then there was a loud

sigh, the lock opened with a click, and his light came on.

The mosquito netting cast a patterned shadow on my ceiling.

The man slumped onto his bed, making the wall between us shake alarmingly. He coughed for a while, then I heard the rustle of a joint being rolled. Soon there was blue smoke caught in the light, rolling through the netting.

Apart from the occasional deep exhalation, he was silent.



SIR TERENCE Conran has always kept abreast of the times, introducing us to bean bags and chicken bricks in the Sixties (Habitat opened in 1964) and to designer everything at the Conran Shop which this year celebrates its 25th anniversary.

Still on track, his new London shop, the Conran Collection, is a showcase for the very Nineties, very Wallpaper school of decorating – all leather and wood and navy, and cream throws and ceramics.

The new shop, based in the old Nigerian Airways office in the West End, has been three years in the planning and a frenzied three months on site. It is pure Sir Terence: some 70 per cent of the handsome merchandise was designed by him.

Products include cheap essentials (Casper dinner service, from £1.95 an item), practical pleasures (silver-plated Minima teapot with trug handle, £29, above left), exquisite, eggshell-light “Cross” porcelain bowls (£25 small, £39.95 large), and the luxurious wool and mohair Igloo bedspread (£325). The Conran Collection, 12 Conduit Street, London W1 (0171 399 0710).

THE POTTER Rupert Spira has a keen following for his chunky tableware in the tradition of Michael Cardew and Henry Hammond. His one-off pots are more exotic, drawing inspiration from medieval Chinese glazes – burnished copper reds, delicate celadons and greys (below left). Until 5 August at the Oxford Gallery, 23 High Street, Oxford (01865 242731).

Guaranteed to light your fire

You don't have to be a smoker, but it helps. The silver bean lighter is fast becoming a design classic. By Shena Mackay

Beans are inherently satisfying in a way that has nothing to do with their nutritional value or as the choice of a million housewives; it is the shape of this pulse, defined by the dictionary as a smooth, laterally flattened, kidney-shaped seed, that makes it so attractive.

The silver bean cigarette lighter appeared some years ago as an instant design classic, fulfilling the criteria of beauty and usefulness. When I told the friend who gave me mine that it was to be eulogised and photographed, she expressed some proprietorial dismay, saying: "now everybody will want one".

Bean people still see themselves as belonging to a club, albeit with a growing membership; when two rival silver beans vie for the same unlit cigarette a spark of recognition flares, even if the rapport dies with the flame. To handle a bean cigarette lighter is to want one: "Lovely to look at, lovely to hold" just about sums up the heft of it, the smoothness, the curve that fits the finger whether you are left or right handed.

However, the bean carries no ego or mark and, although I've seen them in shops in London, I couldn't tell you the name of a regular stockist.

You don't even have to be a smoker to appreciate the bean. Remember that other old slogan - Whatever the pleasure, Players complete it? So it is with the bean, which can be used to light birthday cake candles, campfires, joss sticks or blue touch paper. It can also convert to a worry-bean after you've given up smoking, when a bean concealed in the hand is more reassuring and stress-absorbent than a string of worry-beads.

While the prototype is silver, these genetically engineered beans come in assorted colours now; some are lightweight jelly beans, and while the anodised beans have the authority of the original and best, the gilt on a gold bean given to another friend as a 40th birthday present soon wore off, exposing a silver bean in disguise.

Because the bean is essentially a shell, about 2ins long and containing a disposable lighter, nobody need suffer the social shame of being seen with the wrong-coloured bean. You could be like the couple in the television ad who swap clip-on mobile phone covers to match their outfits, or you could amass a wardrobe of beans, fitting the lighter to the occasion. What could be more appropriate than a black bean to torch a treacherous lover's possessions, or light that funeral pyre or the post-

service Black Russian Sobranie at the crematorium? A marmoreal white bean tucked into the bride's lace garter always adds ceremony to those pre-wedding photo gaspers in the churchyard. On National No Smoking Day ash-grey beans will be worn, and weekenders who want to blend in with the locals should never leave town without that essential haricot vert in their Barbour pocket.

Even if it were possible to possess a bean in every pastel shade of a box of cocktail cigarettes, and for all I know there are customised, jewel-encrusted, monogrammed platinum beans, the silver will always be the classic, a bean for all seasons. Whatever the colour of its shell, though, it's not the bean in your life but the life in your bean that counts - and it takes the smallest and cutest bean refill which, according to its own colour, gives your bean a black or lipstick-red trigger.

These mini-lighters retail at about 40p and are not available

What could be more appropriate than a black bean to torch a treacherous lover's possessions?

everywhere, so once you've found a newsagent who carries them, make sure you stock up.

Once are the days when an onyx or Wedgewood table lighter was an acceptable wedding or retirement gift and much of the fun has gone out of smoking. Diehards can still enjoy the paraphernalia and rituals of the habit - snipping the capsule of lighter fuel, soaking the wadding and stuffing it back in the futile clicking when the flint has gone, replacing the flint, unrolling that yellowed pouch, tamping tobacco into the bowl of a pipe with a horny thumbnail, the machine for rolling cigarettes and the cigarette paper, preferably liquorice flavoured, that rips the skin from the lips - but, as they acknowledge with a bitter laugh, they are an endangered species. We live in times where smokers hounded into the street outside their office buildings are at risk not only from the elements but also from the verbal assault of the passing proselyte.

I was a good loser as a child: sent to the shop for 10 Weights or 10 Woodbines, I would lose the money on the way. I was also good at finding things but never the coins that disappeared by

If you ask anybody to name a cigarette lighter they will come up with the Zippo, and the Colibri still hums along; I have an ancient one and also a windproof lighter made in China engraved with the words, "It fights against the wind whenever you ride your car keeping window open".

The earliest cigarette lighter I remember belonged to my grandfather and was made of brass, with a stiff wheel that scorched and blackened the thumb of any child who tried to turn it. All these lighters have, or had, their place but, in terms of desirability, they fall short of the silver bean.

Even though I was not a smoker when I saw it, one poignant scene in the film *Whistle Down The Wind* has always stayed with me. Alan Bates, who is hiding in a barn, asks Hayley Mills to get him some "snout". She steals a packet of cigarettes from the mantelpiece at home and takes them to him but she hasn't thought to get any matches. Even as he tells her dejectedly that it doesn't matter you know that he knows it's all up with him. For want of a bean the battle was lost.

Shena Mackay's new novel, *The Artist's Widow*, is published by Cape (£12.99) this week. Her other novels are available from Vintage



Shena Mackay's silver bean is anything but disposable - she was distraught when she thought she had lost it

Adrian Den

WORLD

DESIGN DETAILS

CAROLYN HART



THE VICTORIANS started it. Elle Macpherson, Kate Moss, Madonna, Mel Gibson and Sharon Stone made it famous and David Tang took it into the millennium: his exclusive cigar club in Hong Kong turned cigar smoking into an international pastime and left a whole host of recently repatriated smokers gasping for a similar joint in London after the big handover last year.

They did not have to wait long: a slew of cigar bars has recently opened in the capital, attracting a whole new clientele of trendy young things in search of a good time.

Many clubs are members only, so call for details. But check out Churchill's Cigar Bar and Divan (above), the plush, womb-like smokers' retreat at the Churchill Intercontinental Hotel, Portman Square, London W1 (0171-486 5800); The No 1 Cigar Club in Percy Street, London W1 has a Cuban feel to it and is open to all comers seeking refuge from the increasingly stringent no-smoking rules (0171-636 8141). Try the Havana Club at

Monte's, 164 Sloane Street, London SW1 (0171-245 0892); the Front Room, 316 Lille Road, London SW6, and the Back Bar at Boisdale's, 15 Eccleston Street, London SW1 (0171-730 6922). The Dorchester Hotel also holds cigar and champagne evenings; for further details ring 0171-629 8888.

WHAT TO smoke when you get there: Graham Wells, resident director of the No 1 Cigar Club, recommends the following: St Luis Rey A, £9.25 each - a pleasant, well-balanced smoke for the connoisseur, Cohiba Robustos, a modern take on the short and stubby, £14.65 each; Monte Cristo No 4, £7.20 each, perfect for the novice; and the Hoyo de Monterrey Epicure No 1, £10.55 each, for those looking for a smooth, long finish.

Don't smoke, but love the smell? Rush out and buy Demeta's Leather or Wood Smoke fragrance sprays (£12 from Harvey Nichols) - far less trouble than a peat fire and ecologically sound to boot.

A smoker's trusty companion

Tobacco addicts now have a wealth of accessories to burn a hole in their pockets. By Fiona McCarthy



SMOKERS IN search of a Beanie lighter can find the £3.50 version in chrome or gold at Selfridges, Oxford Street, London W1 and tobacconists across the country. Upmarket Beanies in brass (£40) or sterling silver (£195) can be found at Tiffany & Co., 25 Old Bond Street, London W1 (0171-409 2790). Tobacco groupies can spend a fortune on tobacco, cigars and cigarettes at Alfred Dunhill, 74 Charing Cross Road, London WC2 (0171-836 4221) - or just drop in to sniff the atmosphere. Stubbings out can be done with style in a Courtaulds ashtray. Most covetable of all is a tape-measure model at Sartoria, Jermy St, London SW1 (0171-290 8606); Harrods Tobacco Department, Brompton Road, London SW1 (0171-730 1234), and marvel at the range of snuff on offer at G. Smith & Sons, 74 Charing Cross Road, London WC2 (0171-836 4221).

Jermyn St, London SW1 (0171-290 8606); Harrods Tobacco Department, Brompton Road, London SW1 (0171-730 1234), and marvel at the range of snuff on offer at G. Smith & Sons, 74 Charing Cross Road, London WC2 (0171-836 4221) - or just drop in to sniff the atmosphere. Stubbings out can be done with style in a Courtaulds ashtray. Most covetable of all is a tape-measure model at Sartoria, or

the highly designed Bluebird Club ashtray (bottom left). Naturally you won't just nick them, so phone Conran Restaurants for details (0171-736 0716).

Even if you don't smoke, smoking accessories are still worth buying. "Le Smoking" jacket, Yves St Laurent's classic take on men's tailoring for women, is one of the world's most sought after vintage pieces. This Sep-



tember, Christie's are holding an auction of late 19th century Vesta match boxes a Thomas Johnson vesta case, 1889, (top left) enamelled with a study of Mr Jorrocks at the Handley Cross Fancy Ball and nude on shoreline, 1905 (top right) or owl-shaped silver owl case (bottom right) with applied boot button eyes. 1894, est £400-£500. Over 280 objects will be up for grabs, prices £300-£2000. The Pullman Gallery at 14 King St, St James's, London SW1 (0171-930 9595), opens with an exhibition of objets de luxe (1880-1950), including lighters, cigar boxes and collectibles such as this rare smoker's companion in the form of an airplane (main picture); the fuselage is a cigar case, the wings house the cigarettes, the propeller is a cigar cutter and the cockpit holds matches and a striker.

Sheffield's pop-pickers paradise

Opening next spring, the National Centre for Popular Music in Sheffield looks set to be a hit. By Nonie Niesewand

THE SUN shone in Sheffield on Wednesday upon the latest - and not quite the last - dazzling product to be made in their steel works. The National Centre for Popular Music will not open until next spring, but the museum of pop music, from jazz to techno, took an early bow to celebrate sponsorship to the tune of £500,000.

Without any building typology to go by, its architect, Nigel Coates, was freed from boring rectilinear grids. So he dubbed and nixed his own music centre like four great stacks of CDs made of steel. He calls them drums, but, clad in steel plates, they resemble more a Buckminster Fuller dome than a cylindrical tower.

Set at four corners of the site, and linked with a glass shelter overhead, the space between the four drums looks on ground plan like a Celtic cross. This impression is reinforced by the great steel girders of orange, woven like gigantic circuitry into the glass ceiling. The cruciform aspect is important to give the design a dynamism between the four towers: "the sort of energy that you find at Stonehenge," says Coates. "The whole cluster sort of lives."

Crucifixion is also on the mind of the Lord Mayor, Frank White, 67, who will not be drawn on the support - or lack of it - from the local press for this controversial project. "All I will say is that I am sick of the letters page full of whingers lamenting the fact that Sheffield's got this new building. I've passed this place regularly, and I thought it was something from space, a moonshot. I was a bit wary of it at first. But as it went up, it grew on me, and I hope that Sheffield people will take it to their hearts. Personally, I can't stand square boxes."

Breaking away from boxes with these perfect circles has also been good for the environment. The steel cowling on the top of each drum gently revolves in the wind, drawing air through funnels shaped like an aircraft engine to ventilate the interior. These funnels are controlled by a sensor that keeps it facing the wind, so that the building sucks in air, cools it and breathes it back up through the exhibition floors. The system will drastically reduce the centre's need for air-conditioning. From a distance, these rooftop funnels look like record-player pick-ups in the days when they spun vinyl.

"Nothing so representative as a record-player," Nigel Coates counters. "More like a juke-box - not in shape but in the way in which you use the building. It draws you into the space and you make your own selection inside the four drums."

The entrance is a real lure. Impossibly cantilevered into a projectile curve, like Mick Jagger's tongue set in cement, the vast overhang is supported on what looks like orthodontic wire. Coates is famous for his shock tactics. Take the Café Bongo in Tokyo, where he crashed landed half of a real airliner into the facade. Or the Jigsaw in London's Knightsbridge, with its huge copper horn trumpeting its presence.

Sheffield County Council not only

gave him planning permission for this radical and exciting new centre for pop, but they also exhibit an attitude that could set an example for councils everywhere. They make things happen to kick-start industry and draw together the community. The urban regeneration of this quarter of Sheffield began with the recording studios next door that pull in top musicians. (Finlay Quay records all his albums here.) Then they built the biggest cinema complex outside London. Links with Sheffield University persuaded them to build a tourist attraction that mixes science with culture and media. The National Centre for Popular Music is the hub.

Councillor Narendra Bajra calls the new National Centre for Pop Music a "gateway to the city" - a landmark building that reflects

Sheffield's traditional industry.

"We're known as steel city. And this building moves us onto the next millennium with a science park, technology and culture, with great interaction between three sectors."

The Arts Council awarded the centre £1m in December 1996.

Now, sponsors catering for tourists

rather than arts-lovers are dipping

into their pockets to pull together

the contents. They've got some

good ones: MTV, the Guinness Book

of Records, Emap, the Royal Bank

of Scotland (helping on ticketing

with a guaranteed entry time to

avoid queuing), and the Performing

Rights Society, the watchdog for

music rights. Philips is creating a

wraparound auditorium for sight

and sound.

Stung by the image of down-and-out Sheffield in the post-industrial age as depicted in *The Full Monty*, Sheffield Council is facing the new millennium with new industries and a new spirit. "The past was wonderful, but we've got to move on," says the mayor, Frank White. He

is hoping that Frank Sinatra qualifies for inclusion in the pop museum.

In fact, just about every singer since 1940 will. Once inside, a changing video sculpture suspended from the ceiling reflects pop music around its world. Two drums deal with the history and culture of pop, not chronologically but using artists to tell the story.

"You'll go from Billie Holiday to

Radiohead in the space of five minutes," says Tim Strickland, the creative director. In one of the drums, you learn about instruments, make your own sounds and mix your own music from around the world.

The wraparound circular space with its large-scale films and projections celebrates pop stars and shows, and a temporary gallery has special exhibitions, from photos on reggae

to portraits from *Rolling Stone*.

A former punk-reggae singer from the Seventies, Tim Strickland has an archival idea of pop culture. He never sported a pink Mohican because, as he points out, it never caught on north of Watford. "London was structured and spiky. We were more into the music," he says. Besides, he was fired for not singing well enough, so he is the perfect man to road-test ideas, a wannabe pop star. He has a visionary idea of display for the 21st century which involves sight and sound and interactive games, and makes the Millennium Dome's object-driven scavenger hunt seem rather dated.

Research shows that people love memorabilia, but the exhibition

organisers are wary of it since it

seems old-fashioned to have things

in display cases. By avoiding mem-

orabilia, they are recognising the

ephemeral nature of pop. Interactive

displays are much easier to change

than auction-house purchases.

Because the centre is to be

educational, they have cut down on

sound-booths and there are not

many headsets. They want people to

participate, not just stand around

listening to music.

There is a fashion for architects

to name a piece of music that

inspired their building. Daniel

Libeskind beamed an audience at

the Clure Gallery when he likened

his brilliantly faceted Jewish

Museum in Berlin to a composition

by Schoenberg, and Renzo Piano

tells us that his Kenzo airport is like

a piece of Miles Davis jazz. But

Coates won't be drawn on the

composition that he would like to

in his building. "It's not like music,

it's more of a gramophone, in the

end," he says, "a building that allows

you your own experience."

I hope he won't take it amiss when

I select Queen's *Put-Bottomed Girls*

as a ballad for his futuristic building.

It is not a reflection of its shape,

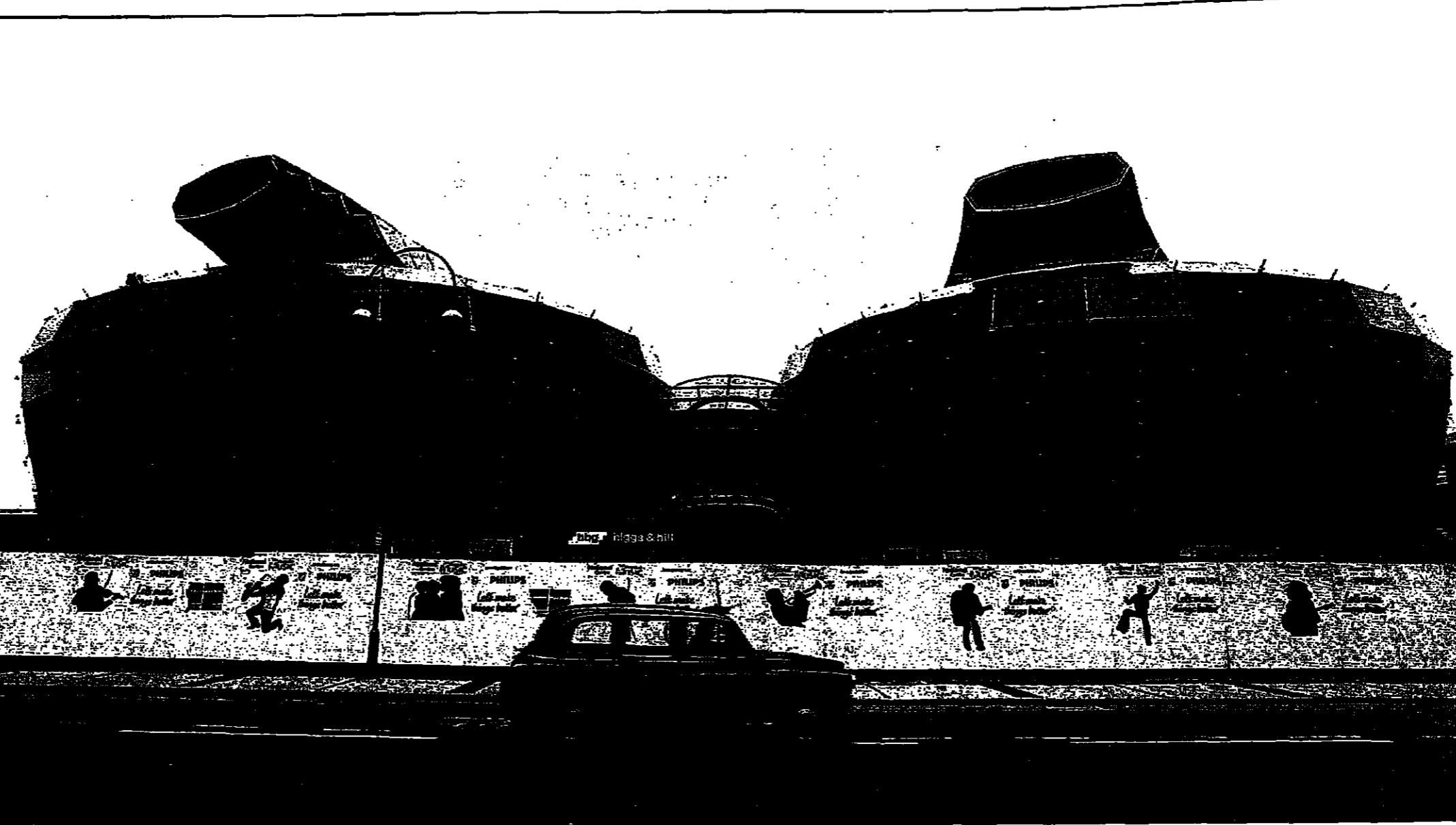
which is beautiful, but rather of the

gravity-defying way in which he

turns pear shapes upside down and

suspends them on those totally

transparent glass bases.



Sheffield's new futuristic pop museum, above, is growing on the locals; below, Nigel Coates, the designer of the building, who is known for using shock tactics

Bongo in Tokyo, where he crashed landed half of a real airliner into the facade. Or the Jigsaw in London's Knightsbridge, with its huge copper horn trumpeting its presence.

Sheffield County Council not only gave him planning permission for this radical and exciting new centre for pop, but they also exhibit an attitude that could set an example for councils everywhere. They make things happen to kick-start industry and draw together the community. The urban regeneration of this quarter of Sheffield began with the recording studios next door that pull in top musicians. (Finlay Quay records all his albums here.) Then they built the biggest cinema complex outside London. Links with Sheffield University persuaded them to build a tourist attraction that mixes science with culture and media. The National Centre for Popular Music is the hub.

Councillor Narendra Bajra calls the new National Centre for Pop Music a "gateway to the city" - a landmark building that reflects

Sheffield's traditional industry.

"We're known as steel city. And this building moves us onto the next millennium with a science park, technology and culture, with great interaction between three sectors."

The Arts Council awarded the centre £1m in December 1996.

Now, sponsors catering for tourists

rather than arts-lovers are dipping

into their pockets to pull together

the contents. They've got some

good ones: MTV, the Guinness Book

of Records, Emap, the Royal Bank

of Scotland (helping on ticketing

with a guaranteed entry time to

avoid queuing), and the Performing

Rights Society, the watchdog for

music rights. Philips is creating a

wraparound auditorium for sight

and sound.

Stung by the image of down-and-

out Sheffield in the post-industrial

age as depicted in *The Full Monty*,

Sheffield Council is facing the new

millennium with new industries and

a new spirit. "The past was won-

derful, but we've got to move on,"

says the mayor, Frank White. He

is hoping that Frank Sinatra qual-

ifies for inclusion in the pop mu-

seum.

In fact, just about every singer

since 1940 will. Once inside, a

changing video sculpture suspen-

ded from the ceiling reflects pop

music around its world. Two drums

deal with the history and culture of

pop, not chronologically but using

artists to tell the story.

"You'll go from Billie Holiday to

Radiohead in the space of five

minutes," says Tim Strickland, the

creative director. In one of the

drums, you learn about instru-

ments, make your own sounds and

mix your own music from around

the world.

The urban regeneration of this

quarter of Sheffield began with the

recording studios next door that

pull in top musicians. (Finlay Quay

records all his albums here.) Then

they built the biggest cinema com-

plex outside London. Links with

Sheffield University persuaded them

to build a tourist attraction that

mixes science with culture and

media. The National Centre for Pop

Music is the hub.

From a distance, these rooftop fun-

nels look like record-player pick-

ups in the days when they spun

vinyl.

Breaking away from boxes with

these perfect circles has also been

good for the environment. The steel

cowling on the top of each drum

gently revolves in the wind, drawing

air through funnels shaped like an

aircraft engine to ventilate the in-

terior. These funnels are con-

trolled by a sensor that keeps it fac-

ing the wind, so that the building

sucks in air, cools it and breathes

it back up through the exhibition

floors. The system will drastically

reduce the centre's need for air-

conditioning. From a distance, these

MUSIC

The show must go on ...

When the band they're in starts playing a different tune, some groups discover a strong streak of pragmatism. By Pierre Perrone

According to the statement issued earlier this week by The Verve, their record company Virgin and their manager Jazz Summers, guitarist Nick McCabe has not left the group, he just "will not be touring with the band for the rest of this year."

Wigan's finest have been here before. In 1995, following an ill-fated American tour, McCabe left and Ashcroft, Jones, drummer Peter Salisbury and second guitarist and keyboard-player Simon Tong tried to soldier on as a four-piece. They also attempted to lure former Stone Roses guitarist John Squire and ex-Suede axeman Bernard Butler into the fold. It didn't quite work out, though, and they buried the hatchet with McCabe.

On the Richter scale of rock 'n' roll seismic splits, this is a minor tremor; the equivalent of Kejagogo with out Limahl or Haircut One Hundred without Nick Heyward. Bigger better acts than The Verve have overcome worse setbacks than one member leaving in a huff.

Take the Moody Blues, who in 1966 recruited Justin Hayward and John Lodge to replace Denny Laine and Clint Warwick and came up with *Nights In White Satin*. Take guitarist John McKay and drummer Kenny Morris, who did a runner on Siouxsie And The Banshees at the beginning of a tour in 1979 following an argument in an Aberdeen record store. Siouxsie and bass-player Steve Severin drafted in Budgie on drums, borrowed Robert Smith from support band The Cure and picked up the schedule 10 days later.

Or take Kevin Rowland and trom-

bonist "Big" Jimmy Patterson sacking the rest of Dexy's Midnight Runners in 1980 and then going on to record *Come On Eileen* two years later. Or, please, take Trevor Horne and Geoff Downes of The Buggles joining Yes to replace Jon Anderson and Rick Wakeman in a free transfer from Buggles...

Genesis have survived some major surgery, changing drummers, guitarists and, most famously, frontmen a couple of times. When Peter Gabriel left in 1975, they auditioned several vocalists (even Nick Lowe, the former Brinsley Schwarz bassist later on Stiff and now a solo artist!) and eventually promoted Phil Collins from within the ranks.

As the drummer recalls, the change "had its pluses. The good news was, after Gabriel left, reviewers stopped thinking that he had written all the music." Collins conceded that, from the early 80s onwards, his solo career put pressure on the relationship with his colleagues. Collins left a couple of years ago but former Stiltskin vocalist Ray Wilson has since fitted in nicely, alongside Tony Banks and Mike Rutherford.

In the final analysis, money is what keeps a band going. In 1978, even the supposedly radical Sex Pistols tried to cover up Johnny Rotten's departure by pushing Sid Vicious to the fore. Drummer Paul Cook maintains the Pistols "never considered carrying on with another singer. There was never a serious audition to find another Johnny Rotten. Trying out Eddie Tudor-Pole (later of medieval new wave act Tempole Tudor) was done pretty much for the film. We couldn't have replaced Rotten and gone on calling ourselves the



Sex Pistols, so we concentrated on cutting a few tracks for the *Great Rock 'n' Roll Swindle* soundtrack. I knew it was all over." The original Pistols reformed two years ago for a less than successful world tour.

A good piece of advice seems to be, if you're going to leave a major band, make sure you maximise your future income by getting your songs included in their latest project. Izzy Stradlin, guitarist and one of the main writers with Guns 'n' Roses, jumped ship in 1991 after contributing to both their *Your Illusion* major-selling sets.

The royalties should still be ticking over nicely. Sometimes you don't have a choice. On 1992's *Mondo Bizarro*, the Ramones still used

former bass player Dee Dee for his songwriting abilities after kicking him out of the band. No wonder the single he penned for them was called *Poison Heart*.

Of course, you can always sell your minority interest in the franchise for a percentage. When Martin Ware and Ian Craig Marsh left The Human League to form Heaven 17, Phil Oakey and Adrian Wright agreed to pay the others one per cent of all future earnings. Having recruited the alluring Joanne Catherall and Suzanne Silvey, the Human League then scored a worldwide No 1 with *Don't You Want Me* in 1981. Nice dividends for Martin and Ian.

Demand may not always be there for an act harking back to former glories with a dwindling number of original members. Last week at the Albert Hall, Earth Wind And Fire, with only two survivors (vocalist Philip Bailey and bassist Verdine White) from the classic 70s line-up, were a parody of their former selves.

Mind you, worse travesties have been perpetrated. In 1971, New York guitarist Doug Yule led a Velvet Underground with no original members, even recording the *Squeeze* album without Lou Reed. Echo And The Bunnymen had the cheek to carry on without Ian McCulloch, though they've all made up now. In 1989, David Crosby, Roger McGuinn and Chris Hillman played as The Byrds to establish their legal rights to the name which the other two original

members, Gene Clark and Michael Clarke, were staking a claim for.

The worst example was the bogus Fleetwood Mac. In its original incarnation, the group had survived the departure of Peter Green, but in 1973, former manager Clifford Davis assembled a band to fulfil touring commitments. For years, drummer Mick Fleetwood seethed at the memory: "We had to sue them in order to get our name back! This was ridiculous, since my name and John's (McVie, the bass player) served as the basis for the band's trademark!"

Lindsey Buckingham, who joined what was to be the definitive Mac line-up, along with Stevie Nicks in 1974, recalls what it felt like to take part in this game of musical chairs. Of a long time, I had to play Bob Welch tunes. Peter Green tunes, stuff by people who had left the group before I joined. In a sense, I was a lounge player in a group, which was not an easy thing. Philosophically, though, it provided me with a slow progression. It wasn't an easy progression, but it was a solid one."

Of the thirteen Fleetwood Mac line-ups, the tenth, the one with Mick, John, Lindsey, Stevie and Christine McVie, really hit paydirt, proved the longer lasting and eventually reunited last year. Christine looks back at all the trials and tribulations with a wry smile.

"From the first rehearsal, we knew we were going to be sensational. Unfortunately, there were more problems after Rumours. John and I split. Stevie and Lindsey broke up. Mick got divorced. None of us were happy."

The ultimate departure of a crucial member doesn't necessarily have to mean the end of a band. The Doors carried on after Jim Morrison's death. After the demise of Ian Curtis, Joy Division metamorphosed into New Order, while the Charlatans have soldiered on since losing keyboard player Rob Collins in a car crash. It all goes to show that there is rock 'n' roll life after death. And after splitting up.

Hallucinations to make a song and dance about

The strange sounds of Koop make music for dreaming to. By Phil Johnson

A FLUTE refrain borrowed from Debussy's *Prelude à l'Après-Midi d'un Faune* swoops over a landscape of digital peaks and troughs provided by the cheesy rhythms of an early-model drum-machine, to be met by the loping three-note measure of a familiar jazz bass-line. Then a dreamy female vocal (by Cecilia Stain - no relation enters with the line "I walk in woods in such a hidden place", followed by pizzicato string samples and the bleeps of an old-school synth. At length the vocal hook returns, along with the Debussy sample, a bit of scat singing, the recitation of some avant-garde Swedish poetry, an accordion solo and a rat-tat counter-rhythm of martial drum-beats.

This is the sound of "Gloomd", by the Swedish duo Koop, the single from their album *Songs of Koop*, and it is both strange and very, very good. There are enough musical and cultural references on board to sink the Titanic, but the tune is still catchy enough for you to find yourself singing along in an imprecise version of what you think are the correct words. The accompanying video, directed by the Swedish singer-songwriter Stina Nordemarstam, is equally strange, setting the walk in the woods in a hallucinatory forest where something nasty lurks amid the pines.

Songs of Koop was released last year by the Swedish independent label Diesel, but has since been picked up by megacorp Universal for its classy new lower-case imprint, columbe d'or, which is no doubt hoping that Koop will turn out to be a Northern European version of France's Air. But when I meet Koop's two partners, Magnus Zingmark and Oscar Simonsson, in a restaurant in Stockholm, they seem endearingly immune to the new buzz about the recordings they made with modest means two years ago. Both are in their



Magnus Zingmark and Oscar Simonsson, of Koop

early twenties, and rather forbiddingly serious; they are less concerned with commercial success than with, well, beauty.

"I think our album and our music describes some kind of beauty," Oscar says thoughtfully. "The beauty and the balance of the parts, like in Plato."

"We're not interested in a pop aesthetic or in being catchy, like Air", says Magnus. Between bites of herring, Oscar makes a big statement: "We want to make music that grows," he says. "The hi-hats are as important as the lyrics", says Magnus, with an air of finality.

They met in 1992 as philosophy students at university in Uppsala, teaming up after a gig where Oscar was playing with his band and Magnus was the DJ. "We listened to old electronic music - John Cage and stuff like that - and began to combine electronics with pop songs," says Magnus, who is the sharper and spikier of the two. The music on the album came out of a trip to Oscar's family's summer house, where they listened to records and produced the sampled loops that would

later form the basis of the tracks. "When you're there on the island you have peace," Oscar says. "You can listen to a piece 45 minutes long because nothing disturbs you".

Markus half-seriously describes the music that resulted from their retreat as "twisted dance music". "It's soft, slow dance music, like a foxtrot," Oscar says.

"Dance music albums are always boring to listen at home, but we wanted to make a real album, not a collection of 12 inches. Modern dance music is always 120bpm or more but it's quite interesting to do a track at 110bpm, like a slow house tune, laid-back, with a lot of space and time in the music."

The slowness of Koop's music is thus less a Nordic variant of trip-hop - a term which dedicated purists insist really applies only to the instrumental hip hop of the "Max Max" label - than a musical evocation of the sparseness of the Swedish landscape.

"On the island everything goes very slowly," says Oscar. "You lose track of time and

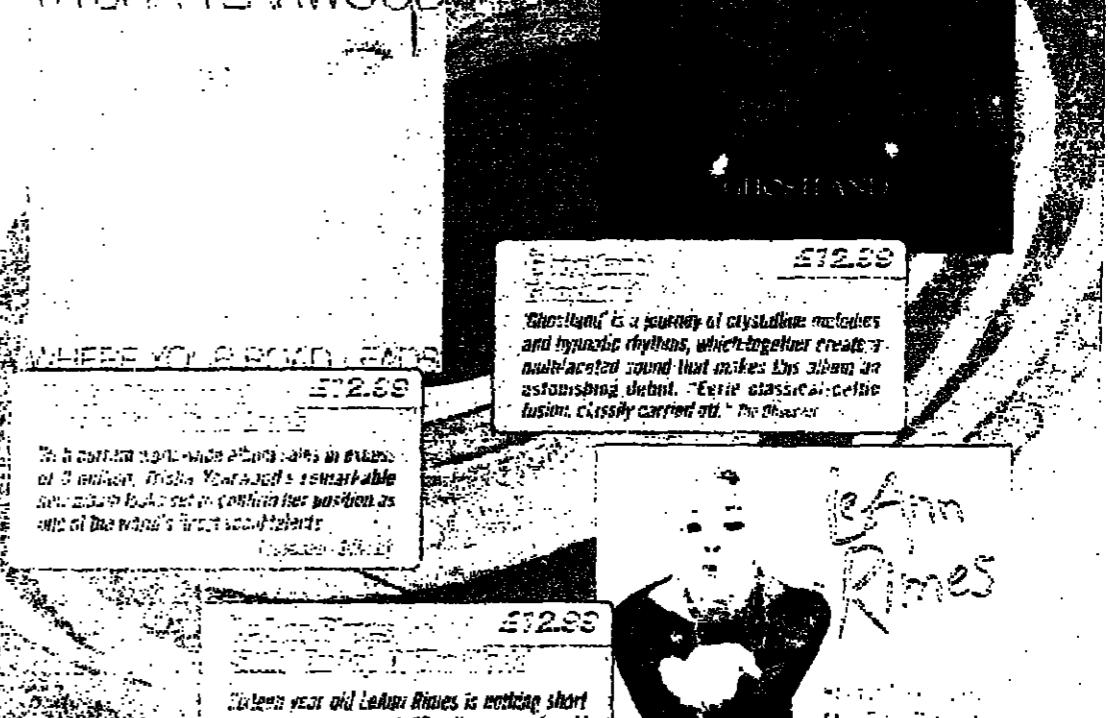
you're really moving around in slow motion." "Gloomd", which means "gloom" or "melancholy" - a powerful emotion in Sweden - originates from when they were mixing records on the decks in Magnus's living room and came up with the experimental pairing of Debussy on one turntable and the jazz bass-line on the other. They then sat down and discussed the significance of the juxtaposition, before gradually working out the lyric and then taking samples from readings by the elderly Swedish poet Rut Hillarp.

They are happy with Stina Nordemarstam's video for "Gloomd". "Our A&R director suggested she should do it, so we sent her the album and she liked it," Oscar says. "She had an idea about Swedish myths and this creature that lives in the forest, who attracts people and then kills them. We could relate to that."

I think it's a joke, but with Sweden it's difficult to tell.

"*Songs of Koop*" is out now on Columbe d'or

TRISHA YEARWOOD



more music for less at **MVC**

MUSIC & VIDEO

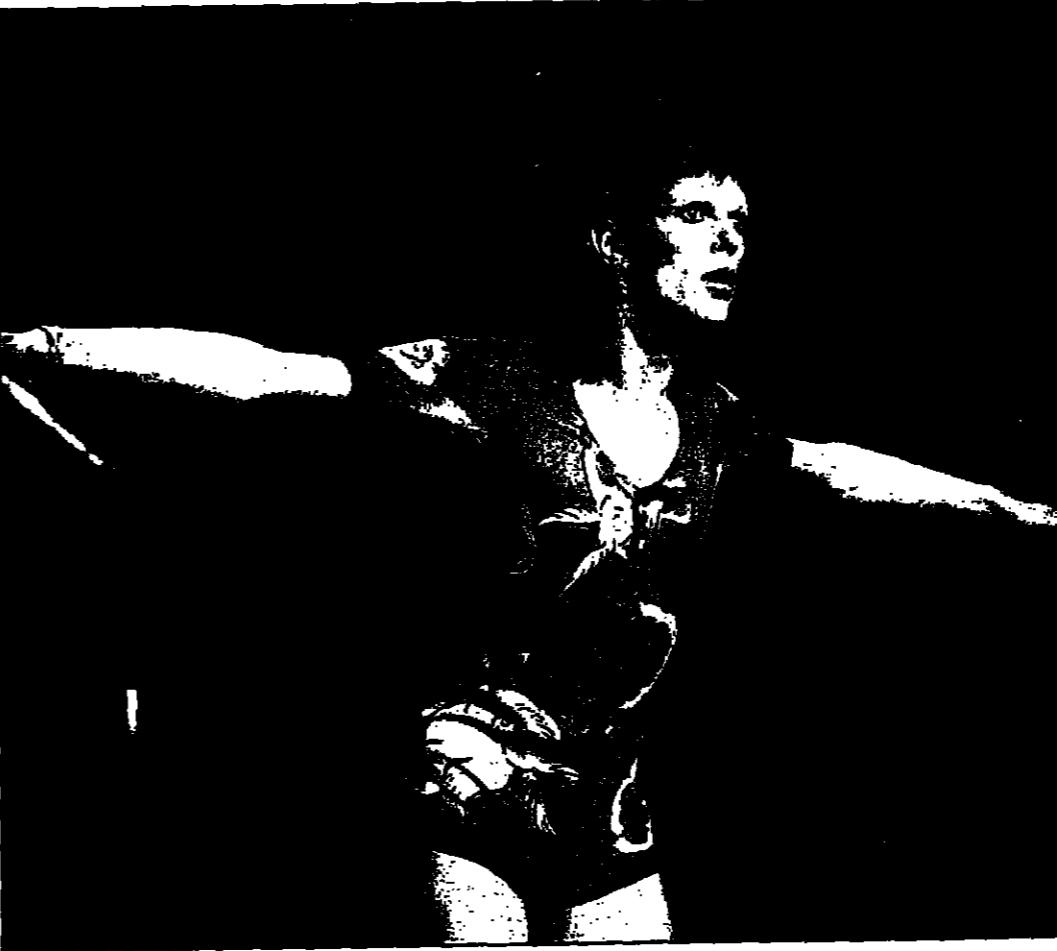
For your nearest store, call 0541 525 520



Left: Nick McCabe; above, the original Fleetwood Mac

Boy, could they play guitar

Steve Harvey's version of Ziggy Stardust's demise went beyond tribute. It was art (the programme said). By Nick Coleman



Steve Harvey (left) announces his retirement – or rather David Bowie's – at the ICA last week, while (right) the real thing does the real thing back in 1973 David Cowland, Debbie Ross / Redferns

Of all the shows on this tour, this particular show will remain with us the longest. Not only is it the last show of the tour; it's the last show we'll ever do." And with his thunderous words still ringing in our ears, Steve Harvey performed "Rock'n'Roll Suicide" for the very last time and quit the stage of the ICA. The audience screamed and looked at their watches.

It was 10.53pm.

Remarkably, these were exactly same words spoken by David Bowie to a rather younger audience at Hammersmith Odeon 25 years ago to the very night, on the occasion of Ziggy Stardust's original conceptual disposal (or death).

The significant difference between the two events, as far as I could see last Friday in The Mail, was that on the first occasion the artist didn't really mean it.

Steve Harvey certainly appeared to. His half-smile was a half-truth; his sincerity was palpable.

Never, ever again would he get on

stage on the 25th anniversary of the last-ever concert by "Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders From Mars" to re-enact that signal performance with his group in absolute detail, word for word, note for note, mime for mime, gusset for gusset. As rock'n'roll suicides go, it was really quite a moving one. No, really.

"Ah-ha," you may say, "you're only saying that because you've been drawn hook-line-and-bra-strap into the web of counterfeit, complicity and late-nite TV irony on which all tribute bands depend." But you would be wrong.

I was moved because this wasn't a tribute band, it was art. It must have been art because it said it was on the programme.

"A Rock'n'Roll Suicide" – a live art event by Iain Forsyth and Jane Pollard, the programme announced, above the logo of the Institute of Contemporary Arts, sponsored by Kodak Advantix, Red or Dead, the Gigi Club and Toni & Guy. Yet Iain Forsyth and Jane Pollard were not even in the group. They conceived the concept, as

artists do, and then let others fill out its skin. Hatchet-faced Steve Harvey and his counterpart "Spiders" were the artists' gesture, enacting on their behalf the hoary old conceit

viously, withered by the spark of novelty that has always connected pop to showbiz; nor, even, was I shaken by nostalgic feeling – I have no desire to return to 1973, when I was spotty but not yet ready to recognise the hermaphrodite within. No, I was moved by Steve Harvey's keenness, his accuracy, his attention to detail, the bloody-mindedness of his will to make believe that reality is just another skin.

Above all, I was moved by his conviction that if we all work together then, by jingo, something really may happen, even if it is only the collective recognition that we all live in a Baudrillardian wendy house. It's always moving when people reveal their vulnerabilities.

So what did we get for the price

of our complicity at the ICA last Friday? We got the spectacle of several original Bowie people in the audience, who had thwarted incipient baldness by artfully teasing their residual side-sticks of hair into oily horns. We got fake Ziggy Stardust costumes re-made by the same person who designed and made

the originals. We got Trevor Bolder's original sideburns, which must have been lowered into place on the bass player's head with a crane. We got Steve Harvey's bum, which is as proportionately flat, wide and unappealing as his thighs are gorgeously lithe, just like Ziggy's. We also got some terrific Ronson-esque guitar playing by "Mick Ronson", who was otherwise completely wrong (if you can imagine Angus Deayton in a blond fright-wig pretending to be a gardener from Hull pretending to enjoy wearing Spanx trousers, then you will see how "Mick Ronson" poses conceptual problems to the artist). I got unfathomable pleasure from finding "Woody Woodmansey" sexually attractive, though the gradual realisation that "Woody" was, in fact, a girl was gravely disappointing – I really thought I was on for a new sensation for a while.

But perhaps the thing that was most in evidence in the blackness of the ICA's arts womb was an atmosphere of collective knowingness, even self-congratulation, at the

Festivals on the way out

The great outdoors? Not any more, says Jonathan King

I WENT down to Glastonbury this year. It was a serious mistake.

I skipped last year, although I have attended virtually every one since it started. I love outdoor festivals.

The concept was born out of the thought that there are performers who want to play music to people, and people who want to hear great music played to them. Those heady days are gone – distant Sixties' memories.

Forget the mud and the rain of Glastonbury. It was the awful, high steel fences that horrified me, giving everyone the feeling that only people who paid were welcome.

Most of the musicians were second division, too, spawned from the era of the quick hit and instant profit that has killed the gradual development of performance skills and abilities.

Nobody bothers to communicate any more. Dozens of one-hit wonders did dull and stulten sets beneath the leaden skies while miserable punters wished they had stayed at home. Cornershop were brilliant with "Brimful of Asha", but that was it.

Clearly these days the organisers want the fans' money.

How, then, could Glastonbury be changed for the better? By



going back to the roots and building on creative and musical motives – and, at the same time, using modern technology to add comfort and care.

How about reverting to the concept of free gigs? Advertisers and sponsors long to reach hundreds of thousands, so why not let the products pay to reach the public?

Outdoors or indoors? Well, the weather is unpredictable, but the joy of sunshine is great. Is it impossible to construct some kind of structures that can be put up or taken down within minutes, depending on the weather?

Moreover, is it not possible to build walkways and driveways that are raised and covered if necessary, facilitating access between areas? One of the few good developments has been the multiple stage and tent arrangement, but the problem of getting from one to another should be solved.

Shops and food outlets must surely be better planned?

And toilets: someone has to come up with clean, practical, hygienic concepts – like those awful public, self-cleaning units.

So who performs? Only descendants of exciting fresh artists, selected because they concentrate on entertaining. They must play for free, too – for the huge advantage of reaching hundreds of thousands of potential record-buyers.

Don't write off some very big names, however. The finest will be only too happy to prove they can do it better than anyone else.

Scrap Glastonbury. Bury the old festivals and start a new one. Then today's music lovers will enjoy those extraordinary experiences as much as my generation.



MC · CD

Double LP

TOP 10 UK SINGLES		TOP 10 FIVE YEARS AGO	
TITLE	ARTIST	TITLE	ARTIST
1 <i>Because We Want To</i>	Billie	1 <i>Dreams</i>	Gabrielle
2 <i>Ghetto Supastar</i>	Pras Michael	2 <i>What Is Love</i>	Haddaway
3 <i>C'est La Vie</i>	B*Witched	3 <i>Falling In Love With You</i>	UB40
4 <i>Three Lions '98</i>	Baddiel/Skinner	4 <i>Tease Me</i>	Chaka Demus
5 <i>Vindaloo</i>	Fat Les	5 <i>Have I Told You Lately</i>	Rod Stewart
6 <i>Save Tonight</i>	Eahle-Eye Cherry	6 <i>All That She Wants</i>	Ace Of Base
7 <i>Legacy Ep</i>	Mansun	7 <i>I Will Survive</i>	Gloria Gaynor
8 <i>Looking For Love</i>	Karen Ramirez	8 <i>Two Princes</i>	The Spin Doctors
9 <i>The Boy Is Mine</i>	Brandy&Monica	9 <i>In All The Right Places</i>	Lisa Stansfield
10 <i>Horn</i>	Mousse T	10 <i>One Night In Heaven</i>	M-People

TOP 10 UK ALBUMS		TOP 10 TEN YEARS AGO	
TITLE	ARTIST	TITLE	ARTIST
1 <i>Talk On Corners</i>	The Corrs	1 <i>I Owe You Nothing</i>	Bros
2 <i>Postcards From Heaven</i>	Lighthouse Family	2 <i>The Twist</i>	Fat Boys
3 <i>Five</i>	Five	3 <i>Boys</i>	Sabrina
4 <i>Live Thru A Lense</i>	Robbie Williams	4 <i>Tribute</i>	The Pasadenas
5 <i>Blue</i>	Simply Red	5 <i>In The Air</i>	Phil Collins
6 <i>The Good Will Out</i>	Embrace	6 <i>Doctorin' The Tardis</i>	The Timelords
7 <i>International Velvet</i>	Catatonia	7 <i>Breakfast In Bed</i>	UB40
8 <i>Urban Hymns</i>	The Verve	8 <i>Wild World</i>	Maxi Priest
9 <i>Left Of The Middle</i>	Natalie Imbruglia	9 <i>Voyage Voyage</i>	Des'reless
10 <i>Where We Belong</i>	Boyzone	10 <i>Push It/Tramp</i>	Salt'N'Pepper

Recommended releases.



Bedlam Ago Go
Estate Style Entertainment
The eagerly-awaited debut album from Bedlam Ago Go, 'Estate Style Entertainment' doesn't pull any punches, broaching gritty realities and creating a unique sound, where the influences of hip-hop, punk and dub combine to devastating effect.



Baaba Maal
'Nomad Soul'
The long-awaited new album from Senegal's king of Atropop, 'Nomad Soul' brings together many and varied influences from Celtic, Cuban and reggae through to funk and reggae, while still maintaining an African feel. Howie B and Brian Eno chip in on the production front.

We know him only too well

He may have lost the bottle-blond hairdo and harem pants, but has Howard Jones, that archetypal Eighties icon, thrown off his mental chains? At London's Jazz Café, the evidence suggested not. By Glyn Brown

LET'S IMAGINE for a moment that Howard asked my advice - and, you know, I wish he would. He might say, I want to make it big again, big as I made it in the Eighties, when everyone was singing along to "What is Love?" and "Like to Get to Know You Well", when my albums *Human's Lib* and *Dream into Action* got pretty high in the charts. After all, he might say, everyone else is doing it - I am about to tour with Culture Club and the Human League. And didn't ABC have a revival last year? Well, sure, I might reply, but ABC were brilliant the first time around and made a good fist of their comeback. You, on the other hand, were merely interesting.

Jones entranced first High Wycombe and then the world with his cutting-edge technology. He was a one-man band with a clever synth and pre-recorded tapes, and he moved like a kind of pre-Cambrian Bez from Happy Mondays.

Apparently, the man has never stopped making music, investing his earnings in a studio and putting out recordings that have left no mark that I am aware of, though there is a new album, *People*, due soon, and a current single, "Tomorrow is Now", which went straight to the cutting edge of the Radio 2 playlist. Ironically, it is about letting go of the past.

Jones has let go of some his past. Back then, he sported harem pants and, though he had something of a bottle-blond root problem, a fastidiously constructed hairdo that only A Flock of Seagulls ever bettered. Now he is 43, the hair that frames the curiously dish-shaped face is shorn and the threads are unassuming. The songs he plays with his three-strong band are a



Keeping up with Jones: funky white soul, cool reggae, frantic rock-outs, pretty ballads and all the old favourites

Tony Buckingham

strange mix of genres, from funky white soul to cool reggae, with the occasional Santana-esque guitar break.

The lyrics are thoughtful, as you would expect from a man who made no secret of his avant-garde vegetarianism. There are lines about angels, love and getting married, or

about finding yourself and embracing the world.

Jones was always a dab hand on the old Joanna, though these days it's a groovy electric organ, and let no one say the rock-outs - such as opener "You Know I Love You" - aren't frantic and the acoustic ballads aren't pretty, but is

that really sufficient? Even the fact that the new single is co-written by the Go-Gos' talented Jane Weidlin can't help it, partly because Jones's voice is still so thin. He lays on all the old favourites, and the additional depth from drums and two shaggy-haired boys on guitar to whom this is all rela-

tively new - one grim and bounces up and down as engagingly as Tigger - gives them a freshness and extra lease of life. Of course, the fans know all the words, roaring along to "What is Love?" and chorusing about throwing off their mental chains. It makes me shamefaced but a

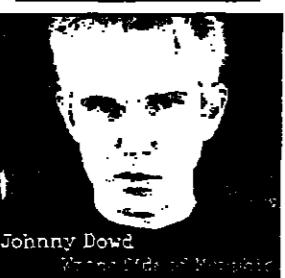
little cynical. If he asked my advice - and he's not going to - I would tell him: Howard, baby, you're a philanthropist. Come on, think about the rest of us. Don't you know when enough is enough?

This review appeared in later editions of yesterday's paper

THIS WEEK'S ALBUM RELEASES

REVIEWED BY ANDY GILL

CD CHOICE



JOHNNY DOWD
WRONG SIDE OF MEMPHIS
(MUNICH MPM 193)

JOHNNY DOWD is an American original, a late-blooming singer-songwriter with an arrestingly individual American Gothic style. A 50-year-old moving man from Ithaca, New York, he has just released his debut album, a downtown dossier of casual violence, Christianity and congenital stupidity.

Dowd's songs have ominously blunt titles such as "Wages Of Sin", "Average Guy" and - not to put too fine a point on it - "Murder", and they are populated by characters such as the Death Row inmate of "Ft Worth, Texas", still hearing voices despite having killed his girlfriend and botched his own suicide. It is oddly compelling, this portfolio of

postcards from the last trailer-park before hell: imagine a more careworn, blue-collar Nick Cave, with the melodrama replaced by a self-effacing fatalism that is really rather spooky.

The album starts as it means to go on, with Dowd mumbling "There's been a murder here today/See the bloodstains on the wall/There's a body in the bedroom/And another one in the hall", over a skeletal blues riff. It is a resolutely lo-fi affair, with Dowd over-dubbing all the instruments: parts of *Wrong Side Of Memphis* sound as though they were recorded through the plasterboard wall of a motel room, which adds enormously to the air of bogus authenticity.

It is as if he is deliberately aiming for the blend of menace and mystery in those weird old songs on compilations such as Harry Smith's celebrated *Anthology of American Folk Music*.

The records are distant but immediate, rendered in a rudimentary white-trash palette of acoustic guitar, cheap organ, drum machine and some piercing, discordant keyboard tones straight out of The Residents' equally nightmarish musical world.

The record is a self-conscious exercise, with songs that creep up on themselves, such as "Idle Conversation", particularly, is a post-modern delight, with Dowd over-dubbing a fake discussion about an

apocryphal blues singer, Johnny Guitar, on his scratchy, semi-audible representation of the said bluesman's old recordings - all by way of an introduction to the following track, "Wages Of Sin". The jewel in the crown, though, is "Thanksgiving Day", in which Dowd croaks "You don't have to be a rock star to have some fun" above a plunking, wheezing backdrop of banjo and harmonium that sounds about as far from fun as is humanly possible.

That, perhaps, is the point, given the way the song's message - "Be content with your life, it may not get any better"

- pivots so gracefully on the cusp of pessimism and passivity.

SLEEVE NOTES

ONE ICON, it seems, is attempting to feed on another. The New York Daily News has reported that scenes in Madonna's video for "Drowned World Substitute For Love", bear a disturbing resemblance to the death of Diana, Princess of Wales. The video opens with Madonna watching Diana's funeral and then features the Material Girl being chased by paparazzi, with a mock-up of Dodi Fayed and Diana leaving the Ritz. It is not about Diana, says Madonna's publicist, but a statement about life as Madonna. Cynics recall that the link between eroticism and religion in the video for her 1989 single, "Like a Prayer", caused outrage at the Vatican, yet the resulting publicity helped the album of the same name to become a best-seller.

THE ENGLAND football team's heroic defeat by Argentina has had our pop stars as miserable as the rest of the nation. Ian Broudie has announced that he will never play "Three Lions" again. Pub owners will breathe a sigh of relief, as will Shaun Ryder. The Black Grape frontman has got a column in the *Sport* newspaper, called "It's Great When You're Talking Straight - The Column With Steel Bollocks". His debut gave Ryder the opportunity to call "Three Lions" "a load of shite".



he asked. The Saints have been offered the chance to appear in *Boycatch* and *Beverly Hills 90210* and write some music for *South Park*. They have yet to make a decision.

ALL SAINTS look likely to curry favour in North America while the Spice Girls are tasting bad publicity, after Toronto's Mayor hit out at the former Fab Five when they cancelled a free show. "What the hell are they doing for the city?"

JENNIFER RODGER



RIALTO
RIALTO
(CHINA WOLCD1096)



EAGLE-EYE CHERRY
DESIRELESS
(POLYDOR 53726-2)



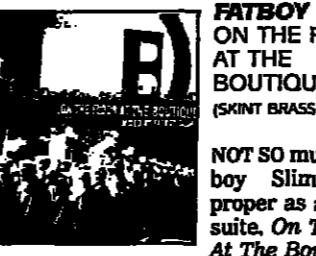
SON OF DON
SCAT
(NPG 74321 60598 2)



NEW POWER GENERATION

NEWPOWER SOUL

(NPG/RCA 74321 60598 2)



FATBOY SLIM

ON THE FLOOR AT THE BOUTIQUE

(SKINT BRASSIC 5CD)

GIVEN THE inordinate length of recent releases by The Artist Formerly Known As Interest

ing (such as the *Emancipation* triple-album, *Newpower Soul* at least has the dubious benefit of brevity. But it is still largely comprised of the kind of hollow funk jams he has been cranking out by the yard for the best part of two decades now. Indeed, when, during "Push It Up", his assembled NPG minions shout out "This is the jam of the year!", one's immediate response is that the year in question must be 1983.

As usual, the album consists of roughly equal portions of forgettable funk workouts like "Mad Sex" and slow ballads like the Stylistics-style "Until U're In My Arms Again", with the best tracks left until late on, when slide guitar and oddly-pitched synth lines bring a welcome diversity to the sound of "Come On", and Clare Fischer's string arrangement spins its web of austere mystery around "The One".

But even those two tracks fail to move one emotionally as they should. TAPKAP's use of shorthand and symbols - an eye for "I", and "U" for "you" - hints at the ersatz emotions he trades in; he seems incapable of dealing with any but the most impersonal of pronouns.

Unlikely most such dance scenes, Big Beat - at least as practised by Norman "Fatboy" Cook - is gloriously eclectic, blending together hip-hop breakbeats, funk bass-lines, turntable scratches, ska shanks and acid house squeals into one sticky, sweaty flow. The only prerequisite, it seems, is the size of the beats, which are indeed huge. There are no temporal restrictions either: Slim slides from a cheesy Sixties version of "Apache" (by Michael Viner's incredible Songo Band), through the sinuous Funkadelic family groove "Disco Down" to more modern cuts like the huge thump and squeal of Deeds Plus Thoughts' "The World's Made Up Of This & That" - great blocks of noise rammed up against each other in the most propulsive way possible. A formidable cacophony, and fun with it.



OCTOBER

FRIDAY 23 BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONY HALL

0121 212 333

SUNDAY 25 BASINGSTOKE THE ANVIL

0126 844 344

MONDAY 26 CHROYDON FAIRFIELD HALLS

0181 688 921

TUESDAY 27 LEICESTER DE MONTFORT HALL

0116 233 3111

NOVEMBER

FRIDAY 6 BRIGHTON DOME

01273 709709

TUESDAY 10 LONDON ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

0171 900 1242

WEDNESDAY 11 CARDIFF ST. DAVID'S HALL

01222 878444

THURSDAY 12 NORTHAMPTON DERNGATE

01604 624611

SUNDAY 15 BELFAST WATERFRONT HALL

01222 534655

"SO WHAT'S NEW?" THE NEW ALBUM FROM THE DAVE BRUBECK QUARTET RELEASED THIS OCTOBER 1998

Lo-Fidelity Allstars
'How To Operate With A Blown Mind'
The Lo-Fidelity Allstars continue their assault on the ear-drums of the nation with their eagerly awaited debut 'How To Operate With A Blown Mind'. Includes 'Kool-Rod Bass' and 'Vision Incision'.

Transister
The eagerly-awaited debut from hotly-tipped newcomers Transister features the excellent singles 'Look Who's Perfect Now' and 'Dizzy Moon'. Transister make highly infectious, eggy pop music that's well worth a listen.

OUR PRICE

Posthumous mass appeal

A 12th-century nun is reaching down the ages after centuries of neglect to sell popstar quantities of her ethereal yet sensual music. By Michael Quinn

She may not be Madonna or even Ginger Spice, but, 900 years after her birth, the music of a 12th-century abbess, the long-ignored Hildegard von Bingen, is regular to be found in the higher reaches of the music charts. As the ever-increasing number of recordings of her work continue to sell in pop-music quantities and her haunting and uncategorisable compositions gain a greater profile on the concert platform, the most famous singing nun before Julie Andrews is enjoying a sensational comeback.

Indeed, the fascination for the multi-faceted mystic, visionary, herbalist, hagiographer, politician, proto-feminist and composer everyone had all but forgotten until the middle of the last decade, has never been greater.

Hildegard was feted in life by princes, popes and politicians, and in death her radiant religious music reaches across the centuries and through the classes to give her – if you will excuse the pun – mass appeal. It is not just in the starched-collar world of classical music that her sublimely ethereal music is weaving its spell. Last summer she

or after” – and he readily acknowledges her as a great composer. “She has a very distinctive musical voice with all the originality you would expect of an auto-didact, and there is work of real stature. Some of the songs are among the largest in the Western world has ever known.”

“It would be pretty hard not to notice the opus,” agrees Barbara Thornton, whose concentrated and continuing investigations of the Hildegard repertoire with her own ensemble, Sequenza, have placed her in a position of pre-eminence amongst contemporary interpreters of the so-called “Sibyl of the Rhine”. “As a composer pure and simple she’s just about one of the best. There are amazing dimensions to Hildegard, some hard for us to accept, and it would take a lifetime to set out the whole issue of the what, why and how of her music and its intentions.” That Hildegard should be cloaked in controversy after centuries of neglect is not, in itself, a surprise. Even so, unpicking, unravelling and reassembling her unique musical signature seems a straightforward proposition until you have to make the decision from which perspective – secular, sacred or even sexual – to begin.

Thornton’s description of the music as “Hildegard’s path into other people” provides its own guiding rationale. “Christian themes may dominate because a lot of it has to do with her own spiritual path, but not in such a way that a modern listener can’t accept it.”

“It’s not so obsessed with Christ and Mary. It’s her own visionary plane which she emphasises.”

And there’s the rub, for Hildegard’s heightened sense of the spiritual and the holy is nothing if not self-specific. Underpinning the surface latticework of prayer is a remarkable re-imagining of the world and is described with a musical vocabulary in which the symbolic, the prophetic and the apocalyptic are woven together with a searing and often un-church-like sensuality.

Add to that the literary hoops and hurdles of her own hyper-poetic self-penned texts and the idiosyncratic nun suddenly does not seem so much pre-Renaissance as post-modern. For Susan Hellauer of the American a cappella ensemble Anonymous 4 – who recently recorded Hildegard’s chants for the Feast of St Ursula – picking a route through such swirling cross-currents of ideas and influences provides its own peculiar problems.

“Who knows where authenticity lies in Hildegard? Her music is like a set of constantly recurring formulae tied to the text like combinations waiting to be unlocked. There is boldness stamped everywhere: in her choices of intervallic material, in ignoring the bounds of contemporary modal theory in her imagery.” And yet, Hellauer adds, the music still retains the power to connect potently and personally 900 years after it was written.

“The emphasis on the feminine divine and the erotic-romantic view of virgin martyrs doesn’t require a lot of explanation to us today – even when the imagery is cuckoo.”

Authenticity, in Barbara Thornton’s mind at least, lies largely in conceptual approaches outside of the written-down notes, in what she describes as “a sense of shared community” within and around the music. “The challenge,” she says, “is the endless invitation to subtlety the music offers in Hildegard the technical and the emotional go together and they have to, in space and often, be allowed to move abreast.”

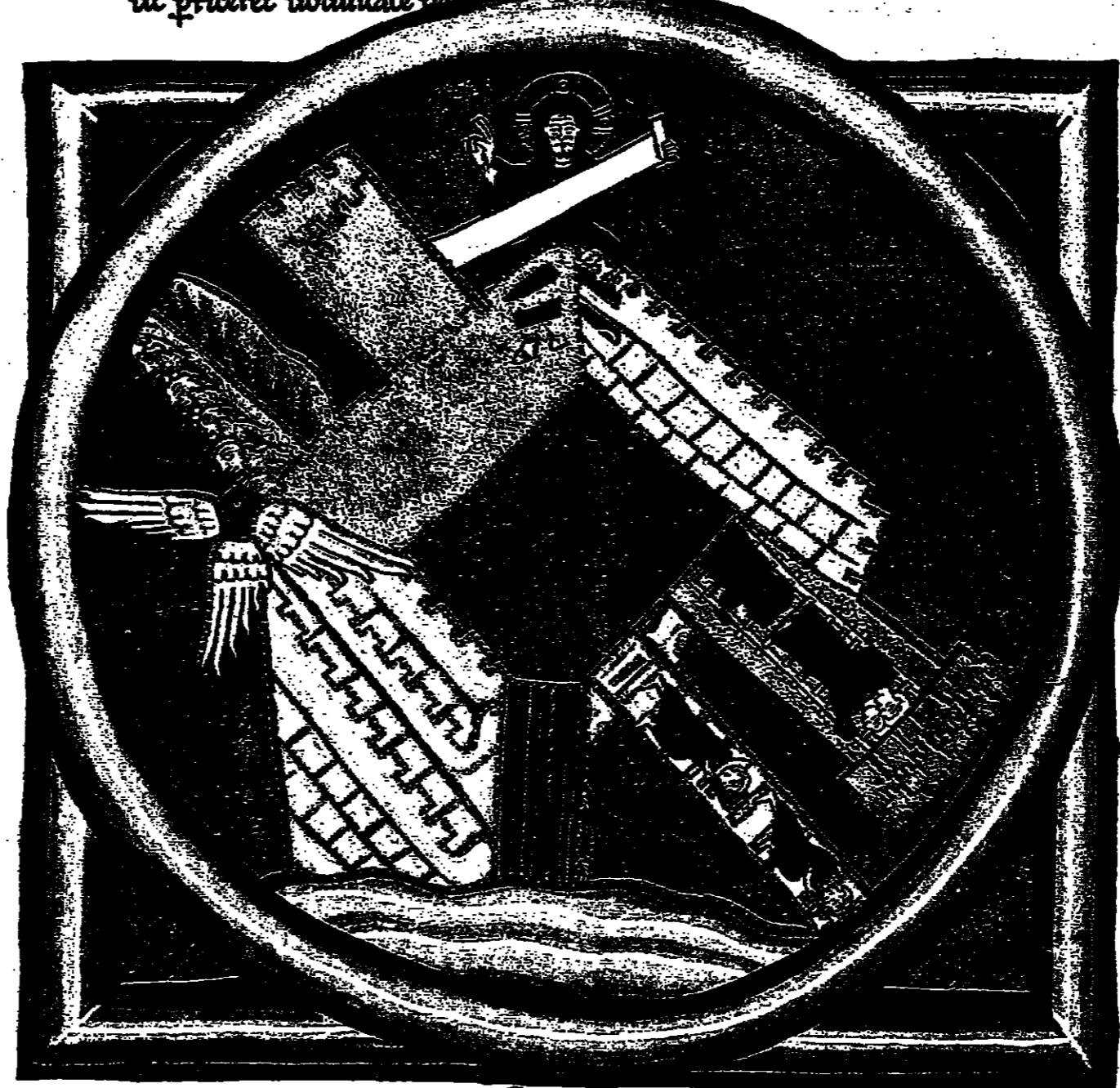
For Christopher Page, whose 1991 recording, *A Feather on the Breath of God* with Emma Kirkby and his own Gothic Voices ensemble, is widely credited with kick-starting the present Hildegard hype, the conundrum is not easily solved.

“My formula for Hildegard is that she was a remarkable woman in an age of remarkable men; an original. The paradox is that although it’s true to say – as a million sleeve notes now do – that she was famous in her own time, the contemporary reputation of her music was but a very small part of that fame. It may be that nobody knew much about her music at all.”

Yet Page argues that Hildegard’s music is without compare – “before

xxiiii. Q. d’ homo exequior elemi, stanf.
fide catholica equati devotio-
xxviii. Q. d’ fidelis homo ascenderat colat:
de virtute iuramentum.
xxv. Q. d’ filius dei misericordia immundum
scdm temp’ punitum aperte
ut pfectet voluntatem tuam.

d’ sapientia malum finem ei i’ operante
castra aut macta aut finis signe
iusticie iusta q’ distributione
voluntatis di null’ hominum
scrutari posset.



Detractors denounce her music as cod spirituality to soothe millennial angst. Others champion it as a voice with a message for the future

contributed (albeit via posthumous sampling) to one of Europe’s biggest techno dance hits.

Although she was very much a woman of her age, the power and pull of her hypnotic music, it would seem, is ageless. Just what it is about the other-worldly soundscape of Hildegard’s music that exerts such fascination and excites such fervour for so many remains something of a mystery. Detractors denounce it as escapist, cod spirituality to soothe the weary millennial angst.

Others champion it as a voice with a message for the future

The symbolic, the prophetic and the apocalyptic are woven together with a searing and often unchurch-like sensuality

contemporary audience to it in the first instance – that gives some cause for concern, or at least for a healthy dose of scepticism. “I sometimes wonder whether the impulse to create a particular piece was ever really as strong as Hildegard would like us to think. Her mode is of constant rapture and in her poetry she speaks as the voice from glory all the time, but occasionally there is a slightly automatic quality to her ecstasy and the poetry seems designed not to contain the feeling she already has but to lift her up to a plane of feeling where she would like to be.”

Perhaps, allows Susan Hellauer:

“but there is no denying or resisting,

she insists, the emotional and spiritual gravity of the music.” It has an elemental, incandescent sound; it’s primitive, like the kind of driven force you find in *The Rite of Spring*. Her trademark sound of large, upward-leaping intervals with lots of octaves and fifths around which the ornamental

music is built is one of physical, Pythagorean entities, vibrational frequencies that mean something to the listener even if they know nothing about music.”

“What people are responding to when they listen to Hildegard,” Christopher Page offers in summation, “is the sound. When it’s done properly it shouldn’t be like a performance, it ought to be a kind of prayer. It’s that sense that really ex-

presses what the music is about, namely her own powerful will. She puts her head above the current. She is unusual. She has a special vision and she pursues it. She is an as-

sensitive soul.”

Perhaps, then, in a doubt-ridden world the idiosyncratic notions of a long-dead 12th-century nun, for all their febrile and vibrant fancies, may just be the release or the rationale some are searching for to



Scivias (Know the ways of the Lord), Hildegard von Bingen's first visionary work, top, and above, Sequenza

AKG London/Erich Lessing

Anonymous 4: 11,000 Virgins: Chants for the Feast of St Ursula – Harmonia Mundi, HMU 907200; Gothic Voices: A Feather on the Breath of God – Hyperion, CDA 66033; Sequenza: Canticles of Ecstasy – Deutsche Harmonia Mundi, DHM 05472 77320 ?

Ten and a half days later...

Just who will listen to a 200-CD piano box set? They’re a must, says Rob Cowan

THE TRADE name Steinway & Sons is as familiar to piano recitals as Marlboro is at the race track, so it was fitting that Philips should launch their epic, 350-hour Great Pianists of the Twentieth Century at Steinway’s Hamburg piano manufacturing plant. Rows of cut timber and complex machinery framed an impromptu press hall where Philips’ President Costa Pilavachi gave us the low-down on Steinway’s sponsorship and the broader scope of the project: 74 great



Rachmaninov, one of the greats

pianists on 200 CDs to be released over the next 14 months, starting with 22 CD volumes due out in August.

The initiative was masterminded by Philips’ reclusive guru Tom Deacon.

“We initially conceived the idea in terms of a 25-CD, all Philips set for the coming millennium”, said Deacon, “but then I thought to myself, why not use other Polygram (ie, Deutsche Grammophon and Decca) material as well? I could even take it a step further: wouldn’t it be great if we could extend the project to include such legendary names as Sergei Rachmaninov, Alfred Cortot and Edwin Fischer – and Vladimir Horowitz? That would be nice.”

“So I made overtures to all the major record companies.”

Co-operation from his opposite numbers in rival companies was mostly forthcoming, and Deacon’s vision of “a major edition reflecting the great pianists of our century” matured from a dream into reality.

But not before hours of tortuous decision making. For six full months Deacon locked himself away in the comfort of his own collection, auditioning the rare, the precious and the arcane.

What pressure from so much surplus product? Or are the perennial qualities of great records sufficiently seductive to sell themselves under any circumstances?

No doubt the seasoned specialist collectors will put the lot, and discerning pianists will be next in line. But what about Joe Public? How will the Classic FM listening audience react to a single-channel recording topped with an aural toupée of 78rpm surface noise?

My guess is that, in many cases, hearing will mean being hooked. Listen to Josef Lhévinne dancing the Danube’s waves or Rachmaninov chasing Rimsky’s “Bumble Bee”, and the message hits home loud and clear.

If Radio 3 lost touch with reality, who would notice?

WEDNESDAY WAS Dvorak’s Seventh Symphony day, with Radio 3’s schedule showing the piece twice in 12 hours. A one-off aberration no doubt, but it brought back that old mid-afternoon doubt: is anybody else out there listening? Since the second listing was at 2am, it set off a new thought: if the station’s *Through the Night* slot lost touch with reality, would anybody notice?

An irresistible urge to sleep prevented a check-up in the small hours, but the afternoons have also become surprising. All week, the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra was featured. Taking in a mini-fest of music by Sibelius, it

amounted to an extra Composer of the Week series. This was backed up by substantial offerings of Sibelius from *In Time and Through the Night* – the latter managing not to duplicate a daytime broadcast – plus a run of symphonies by Nielsen in *Masterworks*.

Whether or not the links were planned, they went un-fanfarad but worked well. Nielsen and Sibelius are tried and tested bedfellows. Samuel Barber and Sibelius, however, make a more revealing couple. Both have the reputation of running into cul-de-sacs at a time when progress was the critical requirement, of being minor

figures at the end of a dying tradition, soon to be swept away by the advance of “serialism”.

Look at them now. Barber, the midnight “Composer of the Week”, now sounds like the first of the new American Romantics, like a post-modern phenomenon who died before the concept even existed. The Sibelius case is even more complex. The ferocious concentration of pieces such as “Tapiola” and the Seventh Symphony has changed our view of the past, casting a new and inspiring light of hindsight on 19th-century composers who were feeling their way towards the same goal. Liszt, with his one-movement

ON THE AIR
ROBERT MAYCOCK

sonata and adventurous, evolving tone poems, was the main beneficiary.

Yet there is a feeling that Sibelius’ time is still to come. More than half a century ago, Constant Lambert landed him with the “music of the future” tag, and his music is played more and more. Part of the fascination is that you can never quite fathom what makes it so exciting. Is there a weirdly popular symphony than Sibelius’s Second? A few composers reckon they

have got to grips with his process, but none has made a big impact.

The BBC SSO is a stronger band than BBC orchestras used to be when mid-afternoons really were dead, but like most of them, it does not deliver all the time – something for the next Radio 3 controller to think about. Nor does it have the strength of violins to handle Dvorak’s quick-flying high lines. This made a frustrating experience of an otherwise exciting high-energy performance conducted by Alexander Titov.

Tuesday’s Berg and Beethoven were another matter, delivered with precision and flair from the

conductor Osmo Vanska and the solo violinist Jennifer Koh.

It is ironic that the robust playing of Beethoven’s Pastoral Symphony had one of Radio 3’s most mealy-mouthed spoken introductions. First the script said how unexpectedly different it was from the Fifth because of its *Country Life* titles – this when the performance was about to place all the emphasis on internal musical drama, like Otto Klemperer with added adrenaline. Then it got obsessed with the number of movements, failing to see that Beethoven was just testing another way to link his scherzo to his finale.

These little things are less of an aberration than anything in the schedules, but they add up. Wednesday night’s broadcast of “Gruppen” by Stockhausen forced the presenter to patronise any listeners using “little transistor radio”. What are transistor radios, anyway? Didn’t they go out with Stockhausen? During “The Piano” afterwards we heard that Chopin “elevated dance forms to a new level”. Just think about the social assumptions packed into that throwaway line. Do these people realise what they are saying? More interview material here for would-be controllers.



Robert Webb QC, the newly appointed general counsel at BA, will be sorely missed by independent airlines when he steps down from the Bar in September

A barrister among us

One of the most important men in aviation litigation was snapped up by British Airways – while fighting a case against them. By John-Paul Flintoff

NEXT TIME somebody tells you that barristers can't operate in the modern world, kindly recite the following list. Robert Alexander QC (now Lord Alexander of Weedon) took the top job at NatWest, Stephen Turner QC became Chief Inspector of Prisons, John Swift QC landed the post of rail regulator, and Peter Leaver QC is chief executive of the Premier League.

And you can now add a new name to that list, because Robert Webb QC, 49, head of chambers at 5 Bell's Yard, was recruited last week to be general counsel at British Airways (BA).

Reporting directly to chief executive Bob Aylng, Webb will run the nine-strong legal team, but also – more interestingly – will take responsibility for regulatory and government affairs. With this week's decision on the clearance of the alliance of BA and American Airlines in Europe by the European Competition Commissioner, Webb's appointment is timely. "I shall attend every board meeting," he says, stalking restlessly around his giant office in Lincoln's Inn, "in much the same way as the Attorney-General attends cabinet meetings."

He will not say how much British Airways is paying him, but jokes: "You don't have to organise a collection for me; I would not have done this entirely for charity." And yet money, he insists, was not the reason he took the job – which arose out of a chance meeting with Aylng at Waterloo Station a few weeks ago. After all, although not the most expensive barrister in the country, Webb is by no means cheap, either. This is not a barrister on the breadline.

He just wanted to try something different. "You can't know what it's like to have been doing something for 25 years until you've done it." Naturally, there is plenty that he still enjoys about his job: "To have a room full of people apparently hanging on your every word, laughing at your jokes – and finding in your favour – is the biggest kick in the world, and I shall miss it like hell." But other routines have become wearisome.

"Before a case starts," Webb explains, "you go through the Garden of Gethsemane stage, when you pray that it will settle. It's surprising to me that more people don't leave the Bar; I don't suppose that

make it clear that I have not been asked to go on the Bench. The world is full of barristers who say that they have been asked, but I have not. Being a judge requires patience, impartiality and enormous diligence – even if you are not interested in the subject. And I find that almost impossible."

Since taking silk 10 years ago, Webb has appeared in practically every significant case relating to aviation. He has won countless Civil Aviation Authority hearings – where airlines battle for the lucrative rights to fly from A to B – and his aviation-related insurance cases include the Gulf War, the Manchester crash and Lockerbie.

When Webb is not at the High Court, he will be appearing in the Court of Appeal or even the House of Lords. A popular story about him – which may even be true – underlines the strength of his practice in the higher courts. A few years ago, the story goes, Webb bumped into Lord Woolf at a cocktail party. Woolf had recently been appointed Master of the Rolls. "Now you are in the House of Lords," quipped Webb to Lord Woolf, "you'll be seeing more of me."

Webb is proud to act for whichever party instructs him first – according to the Bar's long-standing cab-rank principle – even if that occasionally means being instructed against his own former clients. For example, he acted against his old friends, the insurers, after the Zeebrugge disaster, and did the same again after the helicopter crash which killed Chelsea FC's Matthew Harding. Similarly, and more to the point, he has taken on British Airways several times. Most recently,

EasyJet instructed him in a case which is still going on (but scheduled to finish before Webb's new appointment starts in September); and for Virgin Airlines, he tackled BA in the "dirty tricks" litigation, and a massive battle over flights to Tokyo.

Says one solicitor: only half-joking: "He's done a number of cases for us, but he's also been on the other side – the shit!"

It is not for his written opinions that solicitors clamour to instruct Webb. It is for his performance in court. Partner Trevor Soames at Norton Rose explains: "If I had a really crappy case, I'd go to him."

Webb is especially good at reading

a few humorous remarks – but he was winking at me as he did it."

Astonishing though it may seem

– in aviation, an industry beset with animosity – Webb managed to remain friends with everybody. But by joining BA, he loses his claim to impartiality. "He will not be available as a source of advice for my clients," says Cain Howes of Harbottle & Lewis, the solicitor for airlines such as Virgin, "which is a big negative for independent airlines."

There are two ways of looking at

Webb's appointment. One is that: BA has craftily taken out of play a barrister who can – and does – cause the company trouble. The solicitor who instructed Webb on the EasyJet case, Hugh O'Donnovan of Wilde Sapte, elaborates: "It is unfortunate to have one's QC approached – by the other side – in the middle of a case in which he is doing well." And EasyJet's chairman, Stelios Haji-Ioannou, says that BA's recruitment of Webb shows: "how ruthless Bob Aylng is".

But there is also another, more charitable view. By hiring a man well liked among the independents, BA has effectively flagged its intentions to make peace. And that is the way Webb sees it. "I do aim to build bridges," he says. "I have attended the funerals of a lot of independent airlines; I know how difficult it can be for them."

But that is enough gloom and doom. Webb, barely able to sit still, is thrilled at the prospect of his new job, for which he provides an appropriately aerial analogy. "I will be interested to see if I'm any good," he beams. "I view this a bit like a bungee jump, and just hope I will bounce up."

'With the Bar, there's an element of "Been there, done that, got the T-shirt'"

Charles Falconer (the Solicitor-General) misses carrying the ring binders home on the Tube."

Most barristers are conscious,

says Webb, that "the issue of how

and when to leave the Bar is a diffi-

cult one. A vigorous profession

does not need a lot of old pikes moving about."

Christopher Clarke QC, head of Brick Court Chambers, can

sympathise: "There comes a time

when you have been at the Bar for

many years and there's an element of

"been there, done that, got the T-

shirt".

Traditionally, a senior barrister

such as Webb may move up to be-

come a judge. But Webb is uncom-

monly honest about this option. "I

IN BRIEF

FAMILY LAWYERS have backed reforms to make pre-nuptial contracts legally enforceable, but have also warned against introducing a rigid 50/50 split of joint property when a marriage fails. The proposals are included in the Law Society's Family Law Committee's discussion paper on maintenance and capital provision in divorce this week. The society has sent a copy to the Lord Chancellor calling for full consultation on reforms to the law on financial provision in divorce. The committee chairman, Hilary Siddle, said taking the matter out of the hands of the courts might risk increasing the poverty often suffered by women after divorce.

THE MERGER of the accountancy firms Price Waterhouse and Coopers & Lybrand was completed last week at the offices of the City law firm Herbert Smith, to form the conglomerate PricewaterhouseCoopers. Herbert Smith acted for PW and the international arrangements and co-

ordination of local mergers and for Coopers on European competition issues.

THE CHARITY Victim Support has called on the Government to provide funding to allow it to extend its support services to victims, witnesses and their families in cases heard in the magistrates' courts. There is currently a system of state funding for such support services in every Crown Court in England and Wales.

THE GOVERNMENT is to publish a White Paper on radical legal reforms to go beyond what the Lord Chancellor has already announced as to rights of audience and legal aid. Parliamentary sources said the Modernisation of Justice Bill, expected to be announced in the Queen's Speech in October, may propose that pre-nuptial agreements be legally enforceable, and introduce paternity rights for unmarried fathers. Changes to legal aid – its withdrawal in personal injury cases, and an extension of conditional fee agreements, may also be included.

TO MANY – both inside and outside the profession – the words "lawyers" and "management" are mutually exclusive. Perhaps more than most other professionals, solicitors have tended to see themselves as determined individualists – doing what they do for the benefit of their clients and their own practices rather than for anything greater.

However, the increasing size of legal practices has brought management to the fore. Where the accountancy firms have led, solicitors have followed. Nowadays the larger the firm, the more likely it is to have day-to-day management devolved from the partners as a whole – who are, after all, the owners of the business – to a group of often full-time executives.

According to a report just produced by Timothy Morris of London Business School and Ashly Pinnington of Exeter University's School of Business and Economics, firms have taken steps to reform or extend their internal managerial controls and improve productivity – often using management consultants to assist.

That in itself is little surprise. In

deals these days.

Equally, there are not many surprises in the main findings of the research, entitled "Management and Performance in Law Firms". It was carried out as a follow-up to work done by the two authors three years previously. Hence, the findings that firms have got bigger both in terms of number of partners and fee income: that they are increasingly likely to merge, and that partner consensus is still regarded as important.

However, Professor Morris points to the curiosity of the situation whereby corporations are looking increasingly to adopt some of the attributes of partnerships in an effort to become more responsive to their markets, while partnerships are moving towards central control.

The recent response by the accountancy firm KPMG to the merger completed last week of Price Waterhouse and Coopers & Lybrand, is but one indication of the trend. It has appointed an international executive team with the intention of instilling more global focus into what has traditionally been seen as an association of firms.

Law firms of the middle rank and above are increasingly appointing chief executives – sometimes without any legal experience – with the aim of imposing more order on a situation where there are scores of owners, each believing they are doing the right thing.

However, Professor Morris is concerned that this will create an additional layer of bureaucracy that will end up being disbanded. He believes that this is the wrong way for firms to go, chiefly because central controls risk threatening agility.

The urge to increase managerial control might have been prompted by episodes such as the spate of corporate collapses that led to questions being asked about the standard of auditing in some of the largest accounting firms. However, he warns that expansion into markets around the

world will only be successful if there is local understanding and the flexibility to act on that understanding.

One of the reasons why large companies are trying to make their business units more autonomous is to enable local managers to act quickly rather than have to grapple with the vast weight of bureaucracy that has stymied them in the past.

Firms will have to rely upon their cultures to keep standards up, he says. After all, even with increased management, partners in many firms are still sufficiently individualistic to be intent on going their own way.

But perhaps the biggest factor that firms need to bear in mind as they seek to discover the best way of managing their growth is that partners in law firms are – in Professor Morris's experience – more suspicious of management than people in other areas.

"You typically find managing partners trying to manage with efficiency and concerned about performance, but having to persuade fellow partners of that," he says.

Having been prompted to study the field by managing partners attending general courses at LBS, Professor Morris certainly seems to have been persuaded that the law is a distinct area of business needing its own style of management.

He sees a need for a wider literature to complement the writings of David Maister, the British-born former Harvard Business School academic who – through lectures and a pair of books – has made himself the managing partner's sage.

While there are certain similarities between all forms of partnership – even to the point that he thinks the partnership ethos can survive a change of ownership structure, as bank Goldman Sachs – he believes lawyers should be wary of following too closely behind accountants.

Accountants have more affinity with the corporate style because their business is largely advising on efficiency, he says. Lawyers tend to be generalised terms of the type that today accountancy firms are so keen to tie up with solicitors.

Who benefits from legal aid? The lawyers

OUR LEARNED FRIEND



ANTHONY BARTON

The failings of civil legal aid are obvious to most people apart from lawyers with vested interests; it is hugely expensive, its fast-rising cost exceeding inflation, yet ever fewer people benefit from it – most taxpayers are ineligible. It is inherently unfair because innocent defendants are unable to recover their legal costs against assisted persons. The Lord Chief Justice described this as "an obvious incentive to pay something, however unmeritorious the claim". Parliament and the Bar Council have called this situation "legal aid blackmail". The system is also inherently biased, since the decision whether or not to grant legal aid is based on the advice of the applicant's lawyer, who has a direct financial interest in advancing the claim. The Legal Aid Board admits that it is "not possible to exercise detailed control over all publicly funded litigation" and that there is no "effective sanction for shoddy work".

Medical negligence litigation exposes the worst of civil legal aid. It has been attacked by the Lord Chancellor and the Secretary of State for Health, Frank Dobson. Ironically, the Government proposes to retain legal aid for medical negligence. According to official figures, the success rate of medical claims is 17 per cent overall; of 53 per cent of claims that go beyond initial investigation, the success rate is 41 per cent. It is unclear whether this figure includes "blackmail" settlements for commercial reasons, regardless of merit. The major beneficiaries of legal aid are thus lawyers and not victims of medical accidents; lawyers are paid regardless of the merits and outcome of the claim and the quality of representation. Scarce funds for patient care are diverted to lawyers' pockets.

Medical negligence cases conducted under conditional fee agreements backed by after-the-event insurance (necessary in order to pay defence costs, should the claim fail) has a successful record. There is an identity of interest of client, lawyer, insurer and claims assessor. All want the claim to succeed, and to do the job properly. Shoddy work is penalised by failure. Claims are assessed individually.

■ Anthony Barton is a doctor, lawyer and regular contributor to the journal *Medical Litigation*.

Who can manage the law?

Roger Trapp finds that solicitors are handing over the reins of the business to non-lawyers

have escaped the management consultants these days.

Equally, there are not many surprises in the main findings of the research, entitled "Management and Performance in Law Firms". It was carried out as a follow-up to work done by the two authors three years previously. Hence, the findings that firms have got bigger both in terms of number of partners and fee income: that they are increasingly likely to merge, and that partner consensus is still regarded as important.

However, Professor Morris points to the curiosity of the situation whereby corporations are looking increasingly to adopt some of the attributes of partnerships in an effort to become more responsive to their markets, while partnerships are moving towards central control.

The recent response by the accountancy firm KPMG to the merger completed last week of Price Waterhouse and Coopers & Lybrand, is but one indication of the trend. It has appointed an international executive team with the intention of instilling more global focus into what has traditionally been seen as an association of firms.

Law firms of the middle rank and above are increasingly appointing chief executives – sometimes without any legal experience – with the aim of imposing more order on a situation where there are scores of owners, each believing they are doing the right thing.

However, Professor Morris is concerned that this will create an additional layer of bureaucracy that will end up being disbanded. He believes that this is the wrong way for firms to go, chiefly because central controls risk threatening agility.

The urge to increase managerial control might have been prompted by episodes such as the spate of corporate collapses that led to questions being asked about the standard of auditing in some of the largest accounting firms. However, he warns that expansion into markets around the

world will only be successful if there is local understanding and the flexibility to act on that understanding.

One of the reasons why large companies are trying to make their business units more autonomous is to enable local managers to act quickly rather than have to grapple with the vast weight of bureaucracy that has stymied them in the past.

Firms will have to rely upon their cultures to keep standards up, he says.

After all, even with increased management, partners in many firms are still sufficiently individualistic to be intent on going their own way.

But perhaps the biggest factor that firms need to bear in mind as they seek to discover the best way of managing their growth is that partners in law firms are – in Professor Morris's experience – more suspicious of management than people in other areas.

"You typically find managing partners trying to manage with efficiency and concerned about performance, but having to persuade fellow partners of that," he says.

"But perhaps the biggest factor that firms need to bear in mind as they seek to discover the best way of managing their growth is that partners in law firms are – in Professor Morris's experience – more suspicious of management than people in other areas.

"You typically find managing partners trying to manage with efficiency and concerned about performance, but having to persuade fellow partners of that," he says.

"But perhaps the biggest factor that firms need to bear in mind as they seek to discover the best way of managing their growth is that partners in law firms are – in Professor Morris's experience – more suspicious of management than people in other areas.

"You typically find managing partners trying to manage with efficiency and concerned about performance, but having to persuade fellow partners of that," he says.

"But perhaps the biggest factor that firms need to bear in mind as they seek to discover the best way of managing their growth is that partners in law firms are – in Professor Morris's experience – more suspicious of management than people in other areas.

"You typically find managing partners trying to manage with efficiency and concerned about performance, but having to persuade fellow partners of that," he says.

"But perhaps the biggest factor that firms need to bear in mind as they seek to discover the best way of managing their growth is that partners in law firms are – in Professor Morris's experience – more suspicious of management than people in other areas.

"You typically find managing partners trying to manage with efficiency and concerned about performance, but having to persuade fellow partners of that," he says.

"But perhaps the biggest factor that firms need to bear in mind as they seek to discover the best way of managing their growth is that partners in law firms are – in Professor Morris's experience – more suspicious of management than people in other areas.

"You typically find managing partners trying to manage with efficiency and concerned about performance, but having to persuade fellow partners of that," he says.

"But perhaps the biggest factor that firms need to bear in mind as they seek to discover the best way of managing their growth is that partners in

NEW FILMS

MOJO (15)

Director: Jez Butterworth
Starring: Aidan Gillen, Ian Hart
There is a moment in *Absolute Beginners* when the director, Julian Temple, pays homage to *Rear of a Soho building*, dipping into the vignettes unfolding in each office. One of them shows Lionel Blair as a salacious music impresario grooming his junior Elvis and drooling over the boy's snake-hips, snarl and quip. That detail reminds us that behind every young blade in pop lurk pimps who made a point of sampling the goods they were flogging.

The new British film *Mojo*, which Jez Butterworth has directed and adapted from his own play, reveals what we might have seen if Temple had manoeuvred his camera inside that office, down the stairs, across the dancefloor and into the dim back rooms.

Although *Mojo* is tougher and more complex than *Absolute Beginners*, it too is set in a mythologised 1950s Soho which laces grubby realism with rocco glamour. These characters are petty gangsters dabbling in the music industry. Insignificant Teddy boy Sidney (Andy Serkis) pops pills and dreams of America; his sidekick, Sweets (Martin Gwynn Jones), is a jittery boy easily impressed; their boss, Ezra (Ricky Tomlinson), is a blanchard of a man who knows what's good for business.

The film never entirely escapes its theatrical roots, while it may linger in the shadow of *Reservoir Dogs*, it concentrates on a sexual tension which American crime movies generally shy away from.

CW: ABC Shafesbury Avenue, Odeon Camden Town, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Haymarket

KISS OR KILL (18)

Director: Bill Bennett
Starring: Frances O'Connor, Matt Day
Australian road movie cum serial killer drama about a couple of scam merchants, one of whom may be a murderer. Pretentious in some places, it manages to be agreeably nasty in others.

CW: ABC Shaftesbury Avenue, Odeon Camden Town, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Haymarket

TOUCH (15)

Director: Paul Schrader
Starring: Skeet Ulrich, Christopher Walken
Paul Schrader's adaptation of Elmore Leonard's novel *American Psycho*, as its subject is going to be interesting at the very least. And pertinent too, in the wake of Mary Harron's aborted attempt to film the novel with Christian Bale in the lead.

ICL: London SW1 (0171-330 3647) Fri-Sun. 9pm

GURU IN SEVEN (18)

Director: Shani Grewal
Starring: Saed Jaffrey, Jacqueline Pearce
A dismal, witness British comedy which comes on like an Asian version of *Alfie*. A young chancer enters into an agreement to sleep with seven women in seven days in order to attain guru status.

CW: ABC Piccadilly, Virgin Trocadero

MAD CITY (15)

Director: Costa Gavras
Starring: Dustin Hoffman, John Travolta
A desparingly simplistic work with Dustin Hoffman as the weasely reporter who chances upon a hostage situation in a museum.

CW: ABC Baker Street, Hammersmith Virgin, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Rd, Warner Village West End

SLING BLADE (15)

Director: Billy Bob Thornton
Starring: Billy Bob Thornton, Robert Duvall
This intelligent and unsettling drama won its writer-director, Billy Bob Thornton, an Oscar for best adapted screenplay two years ago. Thornton also gives a performance of dazzling concentration as Carl, a mentally disabled man released into the outside world after spending his life in an institution.

Although Thornton is free of the indulgences of most actors who are called upon to portray a disabled character, the film is prone to a sanitisation

GENERAL RELEASE

THE APOSTLE (12)

Robert Duvall plunges into his role in a terrifying yet entrancing manner. West End: Clapham Picture House, Empire Leicester Square

THE BIG SWAP (18)

A drab, unconvincing and preachy drama about partner-swapping. West End: Plaza

CITY OF ANGELS (12)

Nicolas Cage plays an angel puzzling over whether or not to exchange his divinity for domestic bliss with a mortal woman (Meg Ryan). West End: ABC Baker St, ABC Tottenham Court Rd, Barbican Screen, Clapham Picture House, Hammersmith Virgin, Notting Hill Coronet, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Haymarket, Warner Village West End

DREAM WITH THE FISHES (18)

Take a suicidal loser preparing to throw himself off a bridge. Add a junkie with a month to live and give them a few months on the road together before an inevitable tearful farewell. What could so easily have been a nightmare emerges as a refreshing success. West End: Metro

GIRLS' NIGHT (15)

Shameless tearjerker with Brenda Blethyn as a cancer-suffering bingo winner who jets off to Las Vegas for a last-chance holiday with her sister-in-law (Julie Walters). CW: UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Haymarket, Warner Village West End

THE GIRL WITH BRAINS IN HER FEET (15)

Jaunty take on the rites-of-passage genre, set in Leicester in the 1970s. The lively script is complemented by the sparkling performance of Joanna Ward as the film's heroine. West End: Rio Cinema

GREASE (20TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION) (PG)

Twentieth-anniversary reissue of the nostalgic musical. What film there can be had from a second viewing is mostly due to John Travolta's manic performance as the greased-up high-school heartbreaker. CW: Clapham Picture House, Empire Leicester Square, Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon Marble Arch, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero

KURT & COURTNEY (15)

Flawed documentary investigating the death of Nirvana's Kurt Cobain and the conspiracy theories which emerged in the wake of the event. CW: Ritzy Cinema, Screen on the Green, Warner Village West End

THE LAST TIME I COMMITTED SUICIDE (15)

A muddled and vacuous dip into the life of the Beat poet Neal Cassady, played by Thomas Jane. There's lots of fast cutting and theatrical lighting, but the film just amounts to the same old Beat clichés. West End: ABC Piccadilly

LIVE FLESH (18)

A novel by Ruth Rendell is the unusual origin of Pedro Almodóvar's most accomplished film to date. West End: ABC Shaftesbury Avenue, Gate Notting Hill Curzon Cinema, Odeon Camden Town, Richmond Filmhouse, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street

LOVE AND DEATH ON LONG ISLAND (15)

Comedy-drama, starring John Hurt and Jason Priestley, concerned with the relationship between art and life. Writer-director Richard Kwieliowski takes great care in tracing the areas where they overlap. CW: Barbican Screen, Chelsea Cinema, Empress Picture House, Gate Notting Hill, Metro, Tivoli, Richmond Filmhouse, Rio Cinema, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, Screen on the Hill, Virgin Haymarket

MIMIC (15)

Mira Sorvino is a doctor who combats a virus that's sweeping New York by developing a rival stockroom species to wipe out the original disease-carriers in this ingenious science-fiction-horror fable. CW: Elephant & Castle Coronet, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Marble Arch, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

MY SON THE FANATIC (15)

Hanif Kureishi establishes an opposition between a Pakistani taxi driver and his son, who has his sights set on becoming a fundamentalist Muslim. West End: ABC Swiss Centre

THE OBJECT OF MY AFFECTION (15)

Romantic comedy in which Paul Rudd confounds Jennifer Aniston's dreams of weddings by turning out to be gay. CW: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Odeon West End, Phoenix Cinema, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea

PALMETTO (15)

Ironic film noir directed by Volker Schlöndorff. Harry Barber (Woody Harrelson) is the ex-con who gets mixed up with a pair of duplicitous women. CW: Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

POINT BLANK (18)

Re-release of John Boorman's chilling existential thriller starring Lee Marvin. West End: Gate Notting Hill, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on the Green

PONETTE (15)

French tale of a four-year-old girl (Violette Thivisol) whose mother dies in a car accident. The young Thivisol is superb, yet it's hard to deny discomfort at watching one so young parade emotion this raw and primal. CW: Curzon Mayfair, Metro

THE REPLACEMENT KILLERS (18)

Executive-produced by Hong Kong action director John Woo, this is an attempt to launch the American career of his favourite star, Chow Yun-Fat. West End: Virgin Trocadero

SAVIOR (18)

Politically inept war film set in Bosnia. Dennis Quaid stars as a man who loses his family in a Paris bomb blast and avenges their deaths before becoming a hired killer. West End: Virgin Haymarket

SIX DAYS, SEVEN NIGHTS (12)

Inimplausible contrived romantic comedy in which Harrison Ford plays a boozy pilot who crash-lands with a New York magazine editor (Anne Heche) on a remote island. CW: Barbican Screen, Elephant & Castle Coronet, Hammersmith Virgin, Notting Hill Coronet, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Odeon West End, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea

SOUL FOOD (15)

A black version of *Parenthood*, with all the attendant moralising, sentimentality and studied eccentricity that implies. West End: Clapham Picture House, Ritzy Cinema, Virgin Trocadero

STAR KID (PG)

Children's adventure about a young boy who's called upon to save the universe. What it lacks in budget, it makes up for in imagination. West End: Hammersmith Virgin, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Trocadero

STIFF UPPER LIPS (15)

Spoof of the Merchant/Ivory movies from one of the talents responsible for *Leon the Pig Farmer*. West End: Plaza, Virgin Chelsea

THE TASTE OF CHERRY (PG)

The joint winner of last year's Palme d'Or has taken a year to get a release over here, but it's a hypnotic and moving experience. West End: Renoir

THE WAR AT HOME (15)

Tale of a traumatised Vietnam veteran on his return home to Texas, adapted from James Duff's Broadway play. Homefront. CW: Plaza

THE WEDDING SINGER (12)

Unashamedly dumb but winning comedy about a romantic wedding singer (Adam Sandler) who falls for a waitress (Drew Barrymore), but finds that she's engaged to someone else. West End: ABC Baker Street, ABC Tottenham Court Road, Elephant & Castle Coronet, Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon West End, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea

METRO (12)

Mira Sorvino is a doctor who combats a virus that's sweeping New York by developing a rival stockroom species to wipe out the original disease-carriers in this ingenious science-fiction-horror fable. CW: Elephant & Castle Coronet, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Marble Arch, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

of Carl's personality. That aside, this is a compelling work dotted with surprising performances.

CW: Clapham Picture House, Odeon Camden Town, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Haymarket

FILM

Ryan Gilbey



Film Ryan Gilbey

Fargo (left) is screening in London today in a double-bill with *The Big Lebowski*, and although it's bleached, wintry landscapes may not seem like ideal summer viewing, it is a film which repays close attention. It provided the Coen Brothers' crossing-over point, in terms of both commercial stability and industry recognition (it won two Oscars for the screenplay) and for Frances McDormand's warm, wise performance as a pregnant cop.

Riverside Studios, London W6 0181-237 1111 today, tomorrow: 6.35pm. I can't vouch for the quality of the new documentary *This Is Not an Exit*, but anything with Bret Easton Ellis and, more specifically, his novel *American Psycho*, as its subject is going to be interesting at the very least. And pertinent too, in the wake of Mary Harron's aborted attempts to film the novel with Christian Bale in the lead.

ICA, London SW1 (0171-330 3647) Fri-Sun. 9pm

Theatre Dominic Cavendish

THE MANCHESTER ROYAL EXCHANGE'S audacious reconstruction of the Marx Brothers' classic *Animal Crackers* (below) ends its London run tomorrow. With consummate skill Ben Keaton, Joseph Alessi and Toby Sedgwick take on the personas of Groucho, Chico and Harpo - let loose at a Long Island society party. The endless supply of cheap one-liners, visual gags and zany songs will have you howling, klaxon-like, with laughter.

BARCLAY, EC2 (0171-638 8891) 7.15pm

Musical-lovers dismiss by:

the reaction to *Whistle Down the Wind*, may find solace in *Windsor*, where a melodic take on Dickens' *Oliver Twist* classic, *A Tale of Two Cities*, is going down a storm. Paul Nicholas stars as the lovelorn barrister who has the worst of times, thanks to the French Revolution.

THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR (0171-553 5881) 8pm

TOURISM

THE MANCHESTER ROYALE (0161-235 3264) 8pm

THEATRE ROYAL, MANCHESTER (0161-235 3264) 8pm

<

HOLLOWAY
ODEON (0181-315 4213) Holloway Road/Ashley City Of Angels 7.10pm, 9.45pm *Mimic* 7.25pm *The Object Of My Affection* 9.40pm *Six Days*, Seven Nights 7.30pm, 9.35pm

ILFORD
ODEON (0181-315 4223) Ilford Hill City Of Angels 12noon, 2.40pm, 6pm, 8.30pm *Deep Impact* 1pm, 5.55pm *Mimic* 12.10pm, 2.50pm, 5.30pm, 8pm *Mousehunt* 11.30pm *Six Days*, Seven Nights 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm *Sliding Doors* 3.25pm, 8.35pm *The Wedding Singer* 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6pm, 8.30pm

KINGSTON
ABC OPTIONS (0870-902 0409) BR: Kingston *The Object Of My Affection* 5.40pm *Six Days*, Seven Nights 2.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.25pm *Sliding Doors* 2.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm

MUSWELL HILL
ODEON (0181-235 4217) Highgate City Of Angels 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm *The Object Of My Affection* 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.15pm, 8.35pm *Six Days*, Seven Nights 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 8.55pm

PECKHAM
PREMIER (0181-235 3006) BR: Peckham Rye City Of Angels 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm *Grease* (20th Anniversary Edition) 3.45pm, 6.10pm, 8.35pm *Man City* 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm, 11.15pm *Mimic* 3.35pm, 6.05pm, 8.45pm, 11.15pm *The Replacement Killers* 11.55pm *Six Days*, Seven Nights 4.35pm, 6.45pm, 9pm, 11.25pm *Soul Food* 3.50pm, 6.25pm, 8.50pm *Wishmaster* 11.50pm

PURLEY
ABC (0870-902 0407) BR: Purley The Object Of My Affection 2.40pm, 5.40pm *Red Corier* 8.20pm *Six Days*, Seven Nights 2.10pm, 5.10pm, 8.10pm *Sliding Doors* 2.50pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm

PUTNEY
ABC (0870 902 0401) BR: Putney Bridge, BR: Putney City Of Angels 2pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.30pm *The Object Of My Affection* 2.20pm, 7pm, 8.10pm, *Six Days*, Seven Nights 2.15pm, 4.45pm, 7.15pm, 9.45pm *The Wedding Singer* 4.30pm, 9.30pm

RICHMOND
ODEON STUDIO (0181-315 4218) BR: Richmond City Of Angels 1.10pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm *Six Days*, Seven Nights 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm *The Wedding Singer* 1.30pm, 4pm, 7pm, 9.30pm

RIMFORD
ABC (0870-902 0419) BR: Rimford, Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) 2.10pm, 6pm, 8.30pm *The Object Of My Affection* 2.25pm, 5.35pm, 8.15pm *Six Days*, Seven Nights 2.10pm, 2.50pm, 6pm, 8.25pm

SIDCUP
ABC (0541-555 131) BR: Sidcup *Six Days*, Seven Nights 2.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.30pm *Sliding Doors* 2.15pm, 5.15pm, 8.35pm

STAPLES CORNER
VIRGIN (0870-907 0717) BR: Cuckoo Wood City Of Angels 1.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.30pm *Grease* (20th Anniversary Edition) 2.45pm, 5.50pm, 8.15pm *Man City* 1.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm *Mimic* 11pm *The Object Of My Affection* 2.15pm, 5.15pm, 8.30pm *Six Days*, Seven Nights 1.45pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm, 11.30pm *Soul Food* 1pm *The Wedding Singer* 2pm, 5.20pm, 8pm, 11pm

STREATHAM
ABC (0870-902 0415) BR: Streatham Hill *Grease* (20th Anniversary Edition) 2.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm *Mac City* 2.25pm, 5.35pm, 8.45pm *Sliding Doors* 2.15pm, 5.35pm, 8.35pm

ODEON (0181-315 4219) BR: Streatham Hill *Grease* (20th Anniversary Edition) 2.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm *Mac City* 2.25pm, 5.35pm, 8.45pm *Sliding Doors* 2.15pm, 5.35pm, 8.35pm

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (0170-729 040) BR: Romford City Of Angels 1.20pm, 4pm, 8.45pm, 9.10pm *Deep Impact* 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm *Grease* (20th Anniversary Edition) 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.30pm *Man City* 12.50pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm *Mimic* 12.10pm, 2.25pm, 4.40pm, 7.05pm, 9.20pm *The Object Of My Affection* 4.10pm, 9.10pm *Six Days*, Seven Nights 12.15pm, 2.30pm, 4.45pm, 7.30pm *Sliding Doors* 2pm, 6.30pm *The Wedding Singer* 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (0170-729 040) BR: Romford City Of Angels 1.20pm, 4pm, 8.45pm, 9.10pm *Deep Impact* 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm *Grease* (20th Anniversary Edition) 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.30pm *Man City* 12.50pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm *Mimic* 12.10pm, 2.25pm, 4.40pm, 7.05pm, 9.20pm *The Object Of My Affection* 4.10pm, 9.10pm *Six Days*, Seven Nights 12.15pm, 2.30pm, 4.45pm, 7.30pm *Sliding Doors* 2pm, 6.30pm *The Wedding Singer* 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (0170-729 040) BR: Romford City Of Angels 1.20pm, 4pm, 8.45pm, 9.10pm *Deep Impact* 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm *Grease* (20th Anniversary Edition) 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.30pm *Man City* 12.50pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm *Mimic* 12.10pm, 2.25pm, 4.40pm, 7.05pm, 9.20pm *The Object Of My Affection* 4.10pm, 9.10pm *Six Days*, Seven Nights 12.15pm, 2.30pm, 4.45pm, 7.30pm *Sliding Doors* 2pm, 6.30pm *The Wedding Singer* 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (0170-729 040) BR: Romford City Of Angels 1.20pm, 4pm, 8.45pm, 9.10pm *Deep Impact* 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm *Grease* (20th Anniversary Edition) 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.30pm *Man City* 12.50pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm *Mimic* 12.10pm, 2.25pm, 4.40pm, 7.05pm, 9.20pm *The Object Of My Affection* 4.10pm, 9.10pm *Six Days*, Seven Nights 12.15pm, 2.30pm, 4.45pm, 7.30pm *Sliding Doors* 2pm, 6.30pm *The Wedding Singer* 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (0170-729 040) BR: Romford City Of Angels 1.20pm, 4pm, 8.45pm, 9.10pm *Deep Impact* 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm *Grease* (20th Anniversary Edition) 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.30pm *Man City* 12.50pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm *Mimic* 12.10pm, 2.25pm, 4.40pm, 7.05pm, 9.20pm *The Object Of My Affection* 4.10pm, 9.10pm *Six Days*, Seven Nights 12.15pm, 2.30pm, 4.45pm, 7.30pm *Sliding Doors* 2pm, 6.30pm *The Wedding Singer* 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (0170-729 040) BR: Romford City Of Angels 1.20pm, 4pm, 8.45pm, 9.10pm *Deep Impact* 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm *Grease* (20th Anniversary Edition) 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.30pm *Man City* 12.50pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm *Mimic* 12.10pm, 2.25pm, 4.40pm, 7.05pm, 9.20pm *The Object Of My Affection* 4.10pm, 9.10pm *Six Days*, Seven Nights 12.15pm, 2.30pm, 4.45pm, 7.30pm *Sliding Doors* 2pm, 6.30pm *The Wedding Singer* 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (0170-729 040) BR: Romford City Of Angels 1.20pm, 4pm, 8.45pm, 9.10pm *Deep Impact* 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm *Grease* (20th Anniversary Edition) 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.30pm *Man City* 12.50pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm *Mimic* 12.10pm, 2.25pm, 4.40pm, 7.05pm, 9.20pm *The Object Of My Affection* 4.10pm, 9.10pm *Six Days*, Seven Nights 12.15pm, 2.30pm, 4.45pm, 7.30pm *Sliding Doors* 2pm, 6.30pm *The Wedding Singer* 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (0170-729 040) BR: Romford City Of Angels 1.20pm, 4pm, 8.45pm, 9.10pm *Deep Impact* 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm *Grease* (20th Anniversary Edition) 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.30pm *Man City* 12.50pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm *Mimic* 12.10pm, 2.25pm, 4.40pm, 7.05pm, 9.20pm *The Object Of My Affection* 4.10pm, 9.10pm *Six Days*, Seven Nights 12.15pm, 2.30pm, 4.45pm, 7.30pm *Sliding Doors* 2pm, 6.30pm *The Wedding Singer* 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (0170-729 040) BR: Romford City Of Angels 1.20pm, 4pm, 8.45pm, 9.10pm *Deep Impact* 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm *Grease* (20th Anniversary Edition) 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.30pm *Man City* 12.50pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm *Mimic* 12.10pm, 2.25pm, 4.40pm, 7.05pm, 9.20pm *The Object Of My Affection* 4.10pm, 9.10pm *Six Days*, Seven Nights 12.15pm, 2.30pm, 4.45pm, 7.30pm *Sliding Doors* 2pm, 6.30pm *The Wedding Singer* 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (0170-729 040) BR: Romford City Of Angels 1.20pm, 4pm, 8.45pm, 9.10pm *Deep Impact* 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm *Grease* (20th Anniversary Edition) 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.30pm *Man City* 12.50pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm *Mimic* 12.10pm, 2.25pm, 4.40pm, 7.05pm, 9.20pm *The Object Of My Affection* 4.10pm, 9.10pm *Six Days*, Seven Nights 12.15pm, 2.30pm, 4.45pm, 7.30pm *Sliding Doors* 2pm, 6.30pm *The Wedding Singer* 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (0170-729 040) BR: Romford City Of Angels 1.20pm, 4pm, 8.45pm, 9.10pm *Deep Impact* 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm *Grease* (20th Anniversary Edition) 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.30pm *Man City* 12.50pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm *Mimic* 12.10pm, 2.25pm, 4.40pm, 7.05pm, 9.20pm *The Object Of My Affection* 4.10pm, 9.10pm *Six Days*, Seven Nights 12.15pm, 2.30pm, 4.45pm, 7.30pm *Sliding Doors* 2pm, 6.30pm *The Wedding Singer* 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (0170-729 040) BR: Romford City Of Angels 1.20pm, 4pm, 8.45pm, 9.10pm *Deep Impact* 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm *Grease* (20th Anniversary Edition) 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.30pm *Man City* 12.50pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm *Mimic* 12.10pm, 2.25pm, 4.40pm, 7.05pm, 9.20pm *The Object Of My Affection* 4.10pm, 9.10pm *Six Days*, Seven Nights 12.15pm, 2.30pm, 4.45pm, 7.30pm *Sliding Doors* 2pm, 6.30pm *The Wedding Singer* 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (0170-729 040) BR: Romford City Of Angels 1.20pm, 4pm, 8.45pm, 9.10pm *Deep Impact* 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm *Grease* (20th Anniversary Edition) 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.30pm *Man City* 12.50pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm *Mimic* 12.10pm, 2.25pm, 4.40pm, 7.05pm, 9.20pm *The Object Of My Affection* 4.10pm, 9.10pm *Six Days*, Seven Nights 12.15pm, 2.30pm, 4.45pm, 7.30pm *Sliding Doors* 2pm, 6.30pm *The Wedding Singer* 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (0170-729 040) BR: Romford City Of Angels 1.20pm, 4pm, 8.45pm, 9.10pm *Deep Impact* 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm *Grease* (20th Anniversary Edition) 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.30pm *Man City* 12.50pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm *Mimic* 12.10pm, 2.25pm, 4.40pm, 7.05pm, 9.20pm *The Object Of My Affection* 4.10pm, 9.10pm *Six Days*, Seven Nights 12.15pm, 2.30pm, 4.45pm, 7.30pm *Sliding Doors* 2pm, 6.30pm *The Wedding Singer* 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (0170-729 040) BR: Romford City Of Angels 1.20pm, 4pm, 8.45pm, 9.10pm *Deep Impact* 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm *Grease* (20th Anniversary Edition) 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.30pm *Man City* 12.50pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm *Mimic* 12.10pm, 2.25pm, 4.40pm, 7.05pm, 9.20pm *The Object Of My Affection* 4.10pm, 9.10pm *Six Days*, Seven Nights 12.15pm, 2.30pm, 4.45pm, 7.30pm *Sliding Doors* 2pm, 6.30pm *The Wedding Singer* 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (0170-729 040) BR:

FRIDAY RADIO

Radio 1
(97.9-98.8MHz FM)
6.30 Kevin Greening and Zoe Ball 9.00 Simon Mayo. 12.00 Jo Whiley. 2.00 Mark Radcliffe.
4.00 Dave Pearce. 5.45 Newsbeat. 6.00 Pete Tong's Essential Selection. 9.00 Judge Jules.
11.00 Westwood - Radio 1 Rap Show. 2.00 Fabio and Grooverider. 4.00 - 7.00 Emma B.

Radio 2
(88.9-90.2MHz FM)
6.00 Sarah Kennedy. 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan. 9.30 Ken Bruce. 12.00 Jimmy Young. 2.00 Ed Stewart. 5.05 John Dunn. 7.00 Disney's Women. 7.30 Three Tenors in Paris. 11.15 David Jacobs. 12.05 Jeff Owen. 4.00 - 6.00 Jackie Bird.

Radio 3
(90.2-92.4MHz FM)
6.00 On Air.

9.00 Masterworks.
10.30 Artist of the Week.

11.00 Sound Stories.

12.00 Composers of the Week:

William Byrd and Thomas Tallis.

1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert.

2.00 The BBC Archive.

4.00 Music Restored.

4.45 Music Machine.

5.00 In Tune.

7.30 Performance on 3. The last of three concerts in which Alfred Brendel plays all of Beethoven's piano concertos. Warsaw Sinfonia/Volker Schmidt-Gentenbach. Beethoven: Symphony No 1 in C. Lutoslawski: Funeral Music. Beethoven: Piano Concerto No 5 in E flat (Emperor).

9.10 Postscript. Kathleen Griffin visits European spas. 5: 'Le Touquet - the Star Spa'. The seaside playground of the rich and famous. (R)

9.35 Petrus de Grudziadz. Music by the 15th-century composer with a flair for acrobatics, performed by the Bonus Consort and Ensemble Ars Nova de Varsovie.

10.00 Hear and Now. Presented by Verity Sharp. Monumental, meditative works by pioneer and recluse Giacinto Scelsi (1905-88); Oh!; Hymns; Chukrums; Knox-On-Pax; BBC SO/Martyn Brabbins. Plus recent CDs of

PICK OF THE DAY

MICHAEL BUTTS The Irish Play (11.30am R4) takes a shillelagh to London theatre and its current obsession with Irishness. Freddie Jones (right) plays Jake Parsons, a forgotten playwright who reinvents himself as Desmond O'Doherty, rewrites his unperformed *The Witch of Dagenham* as *The Witch of Tralee*, and is promptly hailed as a genius. "There's just one character missing for me," says an admiring director at the

National Theatre. "Where's the cripple?" It may be crude, but it's effective and full of fun. *Hear and Now* (10pm R2) is devoted to the eccentric and reclusive Italian composer Giacinto Scelsi, who died 10 years ago and whose spartan aesthetic, inspired by his Buddhist beliefs, led him to write a body of music based on single notes. Now you don't get that sort of thing over on Classic FM.

ROBERT HANKS

new music reviewed by Andrew McGregor. See *Pick of the Day*

1.30 Bright Side Life. Pat Metheny talks to Ian Carr about his career

12.00 Composer of the Week: Barber. (R)

1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

Radio 4

(92.4-94.6MHz FM)

6.00 Today.

9.00 Desert Island Discs.

9.45 Serial: Reflections.

10.00 News; Woman's Hour.

11.00 News; The Garden. (R)

1.30 The Irish Play. See *Pick of the Day*

12.00 News; You and Yours.

12.57 Weather.

1.00 The World at One.

1.30 Who Goes There?

2.00 News; The Archers.

2.15 Afternoon Play: Unwritten Law. Helena Kennedy QC presents four dramatised features about trials that brought about a change in the law because of changing social attitudes. 1: 'A Case of Blasphemous Obscenity'. In 1976, Mary Whitehouse brought a private prosecution for blasphemous libel against Dennis Lemon and Gay News, which published an allegedly obscene poem about Christ.

3.00 News; Veg Talk

3.30 The Great Outdoors. (R)

4.35 Feedback.

4.00 News; Book Club.

4.30 The Message.

5.00 PM.

5.57 Weather.

6.00 Six O'Clock News.

6.25 Party Political Broadcast.

6.30 in the Chair.

7.00 News; The Archers.

7.15 Front Row. John Wilson catches up with Donald Harstad, a former deputy sheriff from Iowa who swapped his squad car for a word processor and wrote a gritty police thriller in 11 days flat.

7.45 Under One Roof: What's inside a Girl? By Mike Walker, based on the original story by Michele Hanson. With Paola Dionisotti, Edna Dore and Luisa Bradshaw-White (5/5).

8.00 News; Any Questions?

Jonathan Dimbleby is joined in Ledbury, Herefordshire, by panellists including Rabbi Julia Neuberger and Brian Sewell, art critic.

8.45 Letter from America. Alison Cooke with another slice of Americana.

9.00 News; The Friday Play:

The Earthquake Girl. Katie Hilton's award-winning play. Edie works a library and is terrified of causing a world catastrophe. Her sister-in-law Lila thinks she should go out and find a man, but Edie would rather stay in and write a gothic romance. In fact, Edie would be a library if she could. With Saskia Reeves, Barbara Marten and Jean Alexander. Director Kate Rowland. Harris. (R)

10.00 The World Tonight.

10.45 Book at Bedtime: Setting



the World on Fire. Simon Russell Beale reads Angus Wilson's social comedy about postwar aristocracy, theatre, architecture and anarchy. Abridged by Neville Teller (5/10).

11.00 Late Tackle. Martin Bashir and guests including athlete Roger Black look ahead to the World Cup final and the British Grand Prix.

11.30 Eyes on the Prize. Mark Whittaker on the use of sportsmen and women to motivate and coach in the workplace.

12.00 News.

12.30 The Late Book: Bombay Ice. Leslie Forbes's first novel - a thriller evoking images of Bombay and the cinematic magic of Bollywood - is abridged by Janet Hickson, adapted by the author and read by Harriet Walter. *The Sea in the Mirror* (10/10).

12.45 Shipping Forecast.

1.00 World Service.

1.30 World News.

1.35 Shipping Forecast.

1.40 Inshore Forecast.

1.45 Prayer for the Day.

1.55 Leisure Report.

2.00 Weather.

Radio 4 LW

(198kHz MW)

9.45 - 10.00 An Act of Worship.

12.00 - 12.04 News; Shipping Forecast.

1.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast.

1.58 Today in Parliament.

Radio 5 Live

(693, 909kHz MW)

6.00 Breakfast Programme.

9.00 Nicky Campbell.

12.00 The Midday News.

1.00 Ruscoe and Co.

4.00 Nationwide.

7.00 News Extra.

7.20 Friday Sport. Jonathan Ovendend introduces coverage of all the night's live action, including second-half commentary on the Super League game between Leeds Rhinos and Salford Reds.

10.00 Late Night Live. Insight and comment on the day's big issues with Brian Hayes. Including PaperTalk, 1030 sport round-up, 1100 the late night news, and 1115 The Financial World Tonight.

1.00 Up All Night.

5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports.

Classic FM

(1000-1019MHz FM)

6.00 Nick Bailey. 8.00 Henry Kelly. 12.00 Requests.

1.00 Concerto.

3.00 Jamie Crick.

6.30 Newsnight.

7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven.

9.00 Evening Concert.

11.00 Alan Mann.

2.00 Concerto.

3.00 - 6.00 Mark Griffiths.

Virgin Radio

(1215-1260kHz MW)

7.00 Chris Evans.

10.00 Russ Williams.

1.00 Nick Abbot.

2.00 Robin Banks.

2.00 Johnny Boy's Wheels of Steel.

11.00 Janey Lee Grace.

2.00 - 6.00 Howard Pearce.

World Service

(198kHz LW)

1.00 Newdesk.

1.30 From the Weeklies.

2.00 From the Weeklies.

2.30 Songs of Home.

2.45 Short Story.

3.00 Newsday.

3.30 People.

4.00 World News.

4.05 World Business Report.

4.35 Weekend/Insight (SW 5875kHz).

4.45 World Roundup.

5.00 Newsday.

5.30 Outlook.

5.55 Spotlight.

Talk Radio

(1053, 1089kHz MW)

6.30 Newsdesk.

6.30 From the Weeklies.

6.30 Late Book.

6.30 Newsdesk.

6.30 Radio 5 Live.

6.30 Radio 5 Live.</p

FRIDAY TELEVISION

BBC1
THOMAS SUTCLIFFE
 TELEVISION REVIEW

"WHO KILLED JonBenét?"
 the title of **WITNESS**'s (C4) re-examination of the investigation into the murder of a six-year-old girl in Boulder, Colorado, asked a question I knew I couldn't answer. But its point was that huge numbers of people, and in particular large sections of the American media, think they know the answer anyway. They think it was one of her parents - a wealthy businessman and his ex-beauty-queen wife - and since the murder, they have pursued that theory with a flagrant disregard for the facts, egged on by leads from police and the best verdict **WITNESS** was ever going to get. In respect of their defence of the Ramsey parents was "not proven", a resolution that receives nothing. But in its simultaneous arrangement of America's increasingly commanding news media, they secured an unequivocal "guilty".

It doesn't follow from this that the Ramseys weren't involved or even more than they are saying. **WITNESS**'s account of the automailles in the case was contrary to my belief at least. It drew attention to the fact that the three-page killing note had been written on the Ramseys' own pad and also that the ransom sum demanded was \$11,000. carries a final credit noting the details of the handwriting analysis. **SIGHTED** (Channel 4) has some of which was reported to Carol Lata. It does not, however, acknowledge the incriminate **Patsy Ramsey**, or note that that precise figure allegedly coincided with the amount in one of John Ramsey's bank accounts. On the other hand, they made a good case that "reported to" and "allegedly" should set off stop-signs.

But in terms of warning factors to any reader's mind it was widely reported, for instance, that there were no footprints in the snow around the Ramsey home - a classic mystery-story clue pointing to an inside job. But news coverage that night showed large areas leading up to the house with no snow cover at all. The fact that there was no evidence of forced entry was similarly treated as gravely incriminating but there was no need for comic, the series also involves forced entry, as windows and doors in the property were open anyway. Most grotesque of all, the informal change sheet the media drew up included the charge of being insufficiently distraught in public. Or unsatisfactorily distraught. Or easily popular - can only assume that it was something to do with behaviour. The Ramseys soon called in colour.

CARTOON OF THE DAY
SOUTH PARK (10pm, C4, 10pm) "The hippest adult animation to come out of America to date", according to **CHANNEL 4**, don't buy it. The product of two wavy-ponytails from Burbank, this deliberately crude - in every sense - cartoon comes over here vamped up by the sort of moral outrageously fast and furious kind of stuff that **South Park** has always been known for. The girls singing group, This is just seems preposterous. They're calling it "no-show" humour in the States, and someone else has dubbed it "peutinis". Meesie adopted was soon called in colour in motion.

DOCUMENTARY OF THE DAY
THE CRUISE SPECIAL: JANE TIES THE KNOT
SOUTH PARK (10pm, BBC1) Sorry, that should have read "most boring documentary of the day", but there wasn't enough space. It's part of that new genre, the follow-up to the do-it-yourself **TERMINATOR 2: JUDGEMENT DAY** (8.35pm, BBC1) Between 1984, when **JAMES CAMERON** made the first **TERMINATOR** movie, and 1991, when the belated sequel came along, Arnold Schwarzenegger (right) had become a star - and, of course, Hollywood stars don't play bimbos. So instead of being a cultish assassin-cyborg, as in the original, Arnie's now a good cyborg, sent from the future to protect prospective resistance leader Edward Furlong (from evil Robert Patrick, and **TERMINATOR 2** was a landmark in computer animation).

FILM OF THE DAY
THE CRUISE SPECIAL: JANE TIES THE KNOT
SOUTH PARK (10pm, BBC1) Sorry, that should have read "most boring documentary of the day", but there wasn't enough space. It's part of that new genre, the follow-up to the do-it-yourself **TERMINATOR 2: JUDGEMENT DAY** (8.35pm, BBC1)

CARTOON OF THE DAY
SOUTH PARK (10pm, BBC1) Sorry, that should have read "most boring documentary of the day", but there wasn't enough space. It's part of that new genre, the follow-up to the do-it-yourself **TERMINATOR 2: JUDGEMENT DAY** (8.35pm, BBC1)

DOCUMENTARY OF THE DAY
THE CRUISE SPECIAL: JANE TIES THE KNOT
SOUTH PARK (10pm, BBC1) Sorry, that should have read "most boring documentary of the day", but there wasn't enough space. It's part of that new genre, the follow-up to the do-it-yourself **TERMINATOR 2: JUDGEMENT DAY** (8.35pm, BBC1)

FILM OF THE DAY
THE CRUISE SPECIAL: JANE TIES THE KNOT
SOUTH PARK (10pm, BBC1) Sorry, that should have read "most boring documentary of the day", but there wasn't enough space. It's part of that new genre, the follow-up to the do-it-yourself **TERMINATOR 2: JUDGEMENT DAY** (8.35pm, BBC1)

There's something great on tonight
SHAME IT'S NOT ON TV
SCOOT™ 192192

BBC2
ITV Carlton
 Channel 4

6.00 GMTV (14.40-17.00) **8.25 This Morning** (7) (070828B)
9.30 Vanessa (7) (1) (044527B), **10.00 The Challenge** (S) (050833B), **10.15 Style Challenge Classics** (S) (051822B), **10.35 Short Change** (7) (040425B), **11.00 News** (7) (052927A), **11.15 News Report** (7) (052928B), **11.30 The Record** (S) (052928B), **12.00 Ever Second Count** (7) (051829B), **12.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook** (7) (051931B), **1.00 News, Weather** (7) (052929B), **1.30 Regional News** (7) (051929B), **2.05 Party Mason: The Case of the Shooting Star** (7) (051929B)

7.00 Children's BBC: **Teletubbies** (S) (050728B), **7.25 Dinkum** (S) (050828B), **7.50 Get Your Own Back** (S) (050828B), **8.20 Your Shot** (402028B), **8.30 News** (7) (052929B), **8.45 The Record** (S) (052929B), **8.50 Hawkeye** (S) (051427B), **9.30 Cartoon** (S) (051828B), **10.30 The Wild Bush Budgie** (7) (051929B)

11.00 Qwill, First visit of the day to the Loch Lomond World (7) (052929B), **11.30 Golf**, And so back to the bonnie, bonny banks of Loch Lomond, where Peter Alliss, Alex Hay, Mike Higginson, Beverly Lewis and Doug Donnelly have taken the high road to the commentary box (S) (051704B).

12.30 Working Lunch (0720), **1.00 Noble Thoughts** (7) (052929B), **1.40 A Passion for Antiques** (7) (050828B), **2.00 The Simpsons**, **Kelsey Grammer** from **Fraser** guest-voices as **Skidoo**, **Steve Rider** there to put you in the picture (S) (052929B)

2.30 Star Trek, When Captain Kirk attempts to beam down onto the planet Gideon, he fails to materialise. That's public transport for you (7) (052559B), **3.00 The Simpsons**, **Kelsey Grammer** from **Fraser** guest-voices as **Skidoo**, **Steve Rider** there to put you in the picture (S) (052929B)

3.30 Children's BBC: **Noddy** (7) (052929B), **3.45 Playgroup** (7) (050829B), **4.05 Playdays** (S) (050829B), **4.40 Friday** (open to POV) (7) (051929B), **4.55 The Mask** (7) (052229B)

5.00 Children's BBC: **Newsworld Euro-Satellite** (7) (052929B), **5.30 Record Breakers** (7) (051829B), **5.35 Neighbours** (7) (051729B), **6.00 News**, **Weather** (7) (052929B)

6.30 Regional News (7) (052929B)

6.40 News; Weekend Weather (7) (052729B)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (S) (052729B)

8.00 EBB Bond Street (Gordon Parry 1948 US), An enthralling period-piece drama centring on the wedding of a society girl. This film marked the debut of the Valerie Hobson comedy actress Ian Carmichael.

9.00 GMTV (14.40-17.00) **9.25 This Morning** (7) (070828B)

9.30 Vanessa (7) (1) (044527B), **10.00 The Challenge** (S) (050833B), **10.15 Style Challenge Classics** (S) (051822B), **10.35 Short Change** (7) (040425B), **11.00 News** (7) (052927A), **11.15 News Report** (7) (052928B), **11.30 The Record** (S) (052928B), **12.00 Ever Second Count** (7) (051829B), **12.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook** (7) (051931B), **1.00 News, Weather** (7) (052929B), **1.30 Regional News** (7) (051929B), **2.05 Party Mason: The Case of the Shooting Star** (7) (051929B)

2.30 Star Trek, When Captain Kirk attempts to beam down onto the planet Gideon, he fails to materialise. That's public transport for you (7) (052559B), **3.00 The Simpsons**, **Kelsey Grammer** from **Fraser** guest-voices as **Skidoo**, **Steve Rider** there to put you in the picture (S) (052929B)

3.30 Children's BBC: **Noddy** (7) (052929B), **3.45 Playgroup** (7) (050829B), **4.05 Playdays** (S) (050829B), **4.40 Friday** (open to POV) (7) (051929B), **4.55 The Mask** (7) (052229B)

5.00 Children's BBC: **Newsworld Euro-Satellite** (7) (052929B), **5.30 Record Breakers** (7) (051829B), **5.35 Neighbours** (7) (051729B), **6.00 News**, **Weather** (7) (052929B)

6.30 Regional News (7) (052929B)

6.40 News; Weekend Weather (7) (052729B)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (S) (052729B)

8.00 EBB Bond Street (Gordon Parry 1948 US), An enthralling period-piece drama centring on the wedding of a society girl. This film marked the debut of the Valerie Hobson comedy actress Ian Carmichael.

9.00 GMTV (14.40-17.00) **9.25 This Morning** (7) (070828B)

9.30 Vanessa (7) (1) (044527B), **10.00 The Challenge** (S) (050833B), **10.15 Style Challenge Classics** (S) (051822B), **10.35 Short Change** (7) (040425B), **11.00 News** (7) (052927A), **11.15 News Report** (7) (052928B), **11.30 The Record** (S) (052928B), **12.00 Ever Second Count** (7) (051829B), **12.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook** (7) (051931B), **1.00 News, Weather** (7) (052929B), **1.30 Regional News** (7) (051929B), **2.05 Party Mason: The Case of the Shooting Star** (7) (051929B)

2.30 Star Trek, When Captain Kirk attempts to beam down onto the planet Gideon, he fails to materialise. That's public transport for you (7) (052559B), **3.00 The Simpsons**, **Kelsey Grammer** from **Fraser** guest-voices as **Skidoo**, **Steve Rider** there to put you in the picture (S) (052929B)

3.30 Children's BBC: **Noddy** (7) (052929B), **3.45 Playgroup** (7) (050829B), **4.05 Playdays** (S) (050829B), **4.40 Friday** (open to POV) (7) (051929B), **4.55 The Mask** (7) (052229B)

5.00 Children's BBC: **Newsworld Euro-Satellite** (7) (052929B), **5.30 Record Breakers** (7) (051829B), **5.35 Neighbours** (7) (051729B), **6.00 News**, **Weather** (7) (052929B)

6.30 Regional News (7) (052929B)

6.40 News; Weekend Weather (7) (052729B)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (S) (052729B)

8.00 EBB Bond Street (Gordon Parry 1948 US), An enthralling period-piece drama centring on the wedding of a society girl. This film marked the debut of the Valerie Hobson comedy actress Ian Carmichael.

9.00 GMTV (14.40-17.00) **9.25 This Morning** (7) (070828B)

9.30 Vanessa (7) (1) (044527B), **10.00 The Challenge** (S) (050833B), **10.15 Style Challenge Classics** (S) (051822B), **10.35 Short Change** (7) (040425B), **11.00 News** (7) (052927A), **11.15 News Report** (7) (052928B), **11.30 The Record** (S) (052928B), **12.00 Ever Second Count** (7) (051829B), **12.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook** (7) (051931B), **1.00 News, Weather** (7) (052929B), **1.30 Regional News** (7) (051929B), **2.05 Party Mason: The Case of the Shooting Star** (7) (051929B)

2.30 Star Trek, When Captain Kirk attempts to beam down onto the planet Gideon, he fails to materialise. That's public transport for you (7) (052559B), **3.00 The Simpsons**, **Kelsey Grammer** from **Fraser** guest-voices as **Skidoo**, **Steve Rider** there to put you in the picture (S) (052929B)

3.30 Children's BBC: **Noddy** (7) (052929B), **3.45 Playgroup** (7) (050829B), **4.05 Playdays** (S) (050829B), **4.40 Friday** (open to POV) (7) (051929B), **4.55 The Mask** (7) (052229B)

5.00 Children's BBC: **Newsworld Euro-Satellite** (7) (052929B), **5.30 Record Breakers** (7) (051829B), **5.35 Neighbours** (7) (051729B), **6.00 News**, **Weather** (7) (052929B)

6.30 Regional News (7) (052929B)

6.40 News; Weekend Weather (7) (052729B)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (S) (052729B)

8.00 EBB Bond Street (Gordon Parry 1948 US), An enthralling period-piece drama centring on the wedding of a society girl. This film marked the debut of the Valerie Hobson comedy actress Ian Carmichael.

9.00 GMTV (14.40-17.00) **9.25 This Morning** (7) (070828B)

9.30 Vanessa (7) (1) (044527B), **10.00 The Challenge** (S) (050833B), **10.15 Style Challenge Classics** (S) (051822B), **10.35 Short Change** (7) (040425B), **11.00 News** (7) (052927A), **11.15 News Report** (7) (052928B), **11.30 The Record** (S) (052928B), **12.00 Ever Second Count** (7) (051829B), **12.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook** (7) (051931B), **1.00 News, Weather** (7) (052929B), **1.30 Regional News** (7) (051929B), **2.05 Party Mason: The Case of the Shooting Star** (7) (051929B)

2.30 Star Trek, When Captain Kirk attempts to beam down onto the planet Gideon, he fails to materialise. That's public transport for you (7) (052559B), **3.00 The Simpsons**, **Kelsey Grammer** from **Fraser** guest-voices as **Skidoo**, **Steve Rider** there to put you in the picture (S) (0